

WORDS OF JESUS

Chapters	Verses	Words	Words by Jesus	% of Words by Jesus
1,189	31,173	807,367	2,024	0.3%

BASIC: FOLLOW ME

FOLLOW JESUS - THE STARTING POINT



Where's the church in this picture?

The church just means the followers of Jesus Christ

While we agree that the church is the followers of Jesus Christ that doesn't mean that we are all in agreement as what means to be a follower of Jesus

Just as we can distort the concept of fearing God, we can distort the concept of following Jesus

A SIMPLE CONCEPT– HOW HARD CAN IT BE?

“Follow Me and I will make you fishers of men.”

Mt 4:19

The last thing He said to His disciples, “19 Therefore, go and make disciples of all the nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and the Son and the Holy Spirit. 20 Teach these new disciples to obey all the commands I have given you.”

Mt 28:19-20

In between these 2 statements, Jesus spent a life time showing people what it means:

- Follow God
- Make disciples

To get more and more to come under the authority of God & to actually submit to Him

WHERE IT GETS WEIRD

Now days there are millions of people who call themselves followers of Jesus yet:

Their life looks nothing like His!

They don't obey the things that they are called to do, yet in their hearts they are convinced they are followers.

FOLLOW THE LEADER



As kids we get it, we do whatever the leader does.

But in church we done this weird thing that the rules to follow Jesus are different than the rules to follow the leader!

In following Jesus we don't actually have to do what He does, we just have to do it in our hearts

Imagine a kid on a lounge chair playing the follow the leader



Why does that work in church and no where else?

GO CLEAN YOUR ROOM



As a parent, would you accept any of these?

- I memorized what you told me
- I can say it in Greek
- My friends & I are going to get together every week to have study to figure out what it would look like if I cleaned my room

So why do we think that this type of thinking is going to work with Jesus?

WHY DON'T WE LISTEN & OBEY

“Why do you call me, ‘Lord, Lord,’ and do not do what I say?

Luke 6:46 (NIV)

²¹ “Not everyone who says to me, ‘Lord, Lord,’ will enter the kingdom of heaven, but only the one who does the will of my Father who is in heaven.

Matthew 7:21 (NIV)

Words without action have never been acceptable to Jesus.

When I ask you to do something, you just obey.

FOLLOW ME

Jesus' teaching was always completely honest. He doesn't hide anything. When Jesus said follow me, He was brutally honest.

- Not a life of luxury
- I don't even know where I am going to sleep
- People are going to hate you
- There are going to be temptations to fight
- Your family might hate you
- If you follow Me, you might get crucified just as I am about to crucified

Sometimes we aren't that honest with people. We usually emphasize the positives

- You'll be forgiven
- Intimacy with God
- Go to heaven

Jesus said it is very, very difficult to follow Me.

FOLLOW ME

Matthew 7:13-14 (NIV)

¹³ “Enter through the narrow gate. For wide is the gate and broad is the road that leads to destruction, and many enter through it. ¹⁴ But small is the gate and narrow the road that leads to life, and only a few find it.



THE QUESTION

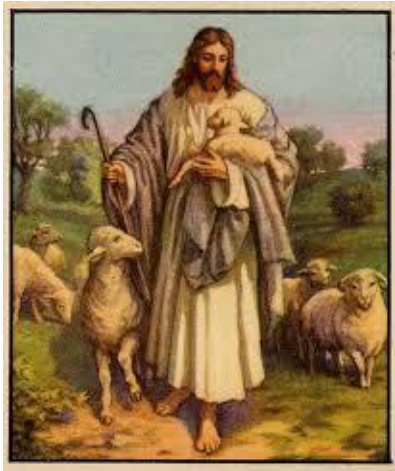
It isn't so much how do you follow Jesus? That's simple, you do what He says!

- Feed the poor
- Love your enemies
- Do good to those that hate you

Maybe the question is why. Why should I follow this Jesus?

- Isn't it a privilege and an honor that we get to follow the Creator?
- Jesus promised that He is going to come back and judge the earth

2 SIDES OF JESUS



In the Bible, Jesus talks more about hell than He does heaven

In some ways I follow Jesus because what other choice do I have?

THE WRATH OF THE LAMB

12 I watched as he opened the sixth seal. There was a great earthquake. The sun turned black like sackcloth made of goat hair, the whole moon turned blood red, 13 and the stars in the sky fell to earth, as figs drop from a fig tree when shaken by a strong wind. 14 The heavens receded like a scroll being rolled up, and every mountain and island was removed from its place.

15 Then the kings of the earth, the princes, the generals, the rich, the mighty, and everyone else, both slave and free, hid in caves and among the rocks of the mountains. 16 They called to the mountains and the rocks, "Fall on us and hide us from the face of him who sits on the throne and from the **wrath of the Lamb!** 17 For the great day of their wrath has come, and who can withstand it?"



Revelation 6:12-16 (NIV)

WHERE WOULD WE GO?

John 6:67-68 (NIV)

⁶⁷ “You do not want to leave too, do you?” Jesus asked the Twelve.

⁶⁸ Simon Peter answered him, “Lord, to whom shall we go? You have the words of eternal life.

Actually find more peace in taking this hard road. All of things that He is saying let go of and to walk away from, those things were going to destroy you anyways!

Matthew 10:39 (NIV)

³⁹ Whoever finds their life will lose it, and whoever loses their life for my sake will find it.

SURRENDERING IS ACTUALLY A GREAT THING

As we surrender God, in sense, begins to serve us

- I am going to wash your feet
- I am going to die a cross for you
- I am going to listen to your prayers
- I am going to reward you

Jesus does not need us to follow Him.

He wants us to follow Him in order to lead us to something better that we never could have come up with on our own

FOLLOW ME