



USE THESE QUESTIONS AND RESOURCES TO HELP YOU PROCESS THE MESSAGE IN YOUR PERSONAL STUDY TIME OR WITH YOUR GROUP.

Message Recap: It doesn't sound right, but it is possible to believe in Jesus and not truly follow him. Together, we'll look at why it's important to follow the way of Jesus, especially when we know that following Jesus makes life better. On our Growth Trek, the Trailhead is where we put our faith in Jesus, but do we continue to follow him from there? That's the big question.

» Main Points

- To follow Jesus is to order your life around the way of Jesus.
- Believing Jesus' name is how you BECOME a Christian.
- Following Jesus is how you BE a Christian.

» Getting Started

- Have you ever done something where you needed a guide? What was that experience like for you?
- Would you rather have someone help you figure out something new or figure it out on your own?

» Observation

- Read and reflect on [Matthew 4:18-22 and Matthew 5-7](#).
- What are your initial reactions to these passages? What do you find challenging? Are you encouraged by any of these verses? Why?

reachout

- Part of what it means to follow Jesus is found in Matthew 7:12 - "So in everything, do to others what you would have them do to you, for this sums up the Law and the Prophets." What does it look like for you to live this verse out with a neighbor, a co-worker, or a friend? Practice this week.

growdeep

- What is an example of something you believe to be true, but you aren't committed to it?
- The ways Jesus asks us to live life in Matthew 5-7 (The Sermon on the Mount) are very countercultural. Which ones are the most difficult for you?
- If you are at the Trailhead on your Growth Trek, what is most exciting about following Jesus right now? If it's been a while since you were at the Trailhead, do you remember what it felt like to be just starting your journey with Jesus?
- What is one area where you could grow in how you follow Jesus?

partner with families

- Everyone has to start somewhere. For you and your family, that may be introducing conversations about faith to your daily rhythms. It may be praying together at meals or before bedtime. Start your new habit this week. Pick a time to do a prayer or devotional with your family. Talk with your family about why you take time to learn more about God and talk with him.

» Next Steps and Prayer

- Take the Growth Trek Self-Assessment this week at ehills.org/weekend.
- Where do you need to grow in your following of Jesus - Connecting, Serving, Growing?
- Close by asking God to help you find one next step you can take right now to continue actively following Jesus.