

Series: Follow
Sermon: Fine Print
November 19, 2017

Have some fun...

1. What is something you've won and how did you win it?
2. What is your favorite part of the Thanksgiving meal?
3. At amusement parks, are you drawn more to the scariest roller coaster or the tamest merry-go-round?
4. What is your favorite kind of candy?
5. What is your favorite season?

Overview of Follow – Sermon 5 “Fine Print” (Read Aloud)

During his time on earth, Jesus invited misbehavers and unbelievers to follow him. We are all invited to follow him. You are invited to follow him, but there's something you need to know about following Jesus. It will cost you something eventually.

It may cost you money, career advancement, or even relationships. That's because Jesus offers us the choice of denying ourselves now or losing ourselves later. But you'll find that when you pay the price for following Jesus, you'll be glad you did.

Talk About It

1. What is something that you are learning about following Jesus from the first 4 weeks of this series?
2. What do you first think of when you hear “fine print”?
3. What do you see as the difference between a “Jesus fan” and a “Jesus follower”?

4. Have you ever seen someone else pay a price for his or her decision to follow Jesus? How did that person's experiences influence your own faith?
5. Has your faith ever cost you something? If so, how has paying that cost changed your relationship with God?
6. If someone asked you about the cost of following Jesus, what would you tell them about...?
 - A. The cost of following Jesus.
 - B. The cost of not following Jesus.

The Source

Mark 8:27-38

1. Why do you think Jesus asked his disciples, "Who do people say that I am?"
2. More pointedly, why do you think he wanted to know who the disciples said he was? (Vs. 27-30)
3. Jesus tells them not to tell anyone about him. Why?
4. How do you think the disciples heard verse 31?
5. What does it mean "to have in mind the things of man and not the things of God?"
6. Mark 8:34 "Whoever wants to be my disciple must deny themselves and take up their cross and follow me." What stands out to you in this verse?
7. What is your soul?
 - A. Read Genesis 2:7.
 - B. Read Psalm 103:1.
8. What would it mean to "forfeit your soul"?
 - A. Read Luke 16:19-31.
 - B. In the early part of Luke 16, Jesus tells the story of a dishonest manager. He states that "no one can serve two masters. Either you will hate the one and love the other, or you will be devoted to the one and despise the other. You cannot serve both God and money."
 - C. In this story of the rich man and Lazarus, we don't know specifics of their individually decisions to follow Jesus, but what can you learn about "forfeiting your soul"?

Make It Practical

1. "Sometimes saying yes to Jesus means saying no to me." Are you currently being nudged to do something, say something, quit something, start something, or give up something? What can this group do to support you?
2. Jim Elliot once said, "He is no fool who gives up what he cannot keep to gain what he cannot lose." What stands out to you about this statement?

Pray Together

1. Pray that your faith would be **confident** that "Jesus is the Messiah."
2. Pray for **courage** to "deny yourself and take up your cross and follow Jesus."