

Twenty times in the New Testament, Jesus Christ issued a compelling and challenging invitation: "Follow Me." Jesus is not interested in mere fans. He doesn't want enthusiastic admirers. He wants completely committed followers. This series examines what it means to deny one's self and truly follow Jesus.

Answer before watching this week's episode

1. Before we begin, I asked the question last week "Is Jesus asking you to give up anything today?" Did you consider this question this past week? _____

2. Another question I asked last week was, "What steps are you willing to take to better follow Jesus?" Did you consider this question this past week? _____

Answer after watching episode

3. In this week's episode we meet Eric's wife Anna. We see Eric trying to do what is right but he is having some push back from Anna? What are some of the things that she brought up? _____

4. Eric appears to be changing into a full-blown committed follower of Jesus. What do you think is holding Anna back from joining him? _____

5. What is the contrast between Eric's behavior and Anna's behavior? What is at the heart of each one? _____

6. Turn in your Bible to Luke 9:57-62. First, read the scripture a couple of times. Now that you have read it a couple of times, what stands out to you from this portion of scripture? _____

Devotional Thought

One of the common misconceptions about Christianity is that it is comfortable and safe. This is simply not true. Jesus is lifesaving, lifegiving, and He sets us free from the bondage of sin but being a committed follower does not spare us or insulate us from the troubles of this life. Jesus gives us the eternal perspective to follow Him despite the grievances that this life will sometimes give us.

7. What do you think Jesus is trying to tell these individuals about the cost of following Him? _____

8. What do you think Jesus meant by telling the first individual that “Foxes have holes, and birds of the air have nests, but the Son of Man has nowhere to lay his head.”? _____

9. What do you think Jesus meant by telling the second individual, “Leave the dead to bury their own dead. But as for you, go and proclaim the kingdom of God.”? _____

10. What do you think Jesus meant when He said to the third individual, “No one who puts his hand to the plow and looks back is fit for the kingdom of God.”? _____

11. All three said that they would follow Jesus, so why did He give them such hard words of instruction? _____

12. Judging from Eric’s behavior, is he being an example of what Jesus is calling us to be? Why? _____

13. At the end of the episode did Eric’s behavior influence his family? How so? _____

Reflection Questions

14. How did you come to Jesus? Was it because of a good sales pitch or some deep call of commitment? _____

15. Do you think that most Christians around you are sold out to the idea of being a committed follower of Jesus? Why? _____

16. Kyle said, "Following is not trying every day but dying every day." How does that impact your relationship with Jesus right now? _____

17. Is there anything that you are putting off until tomorrow that you should do today for Jesus? _____
