

THE BIBLE'S DESCRIPTION OF WHAT IT MEANS TO FOLLOW CHRIST

Matthew 4:18-20 (NASB95)

¹⁸ Now as Jesus was walking by the Sea of Galilee, He saw two brothers, Simon who was called Peter, and Andrew his brother, casting a net into the sea; for they were fishermen. ¹⁹ And He said* to them, "**Follow Me, and I will make you fishers of men.**" ²⁰ Immediately they left their nets and followed Him.

Matthew 8:21-22 (NASB95)

²¹ Another of the disciples said to Him, "Lord, permit me first to go and bury my father." ²² But Jesus said* to him, "**Follow Me, and allow the dead to bury their own dead.**"

Matthew 9:9 (NASB95)

⁹ As Jesus went on from there, He saw a man called Matthew, sitting in the tax collector's booth; and He said* to him, "**Follow Me!**" And he got up and followed Him.

Matthew 10:32-39 (NASB95)

³² "Therefore **everyone who confesses Me before men,** I will also confess him before My Father who is in heaven. ³³ "But whoever denies Me before men, I will also deny him before My Father who is in heaven.

³⁴ "Do not think that I came to bring peace on the earth; I did not come to bring peace, but a sword. ³⁵ "For **I came to SET A MAN AGAINST HIS FATHER, AND A DAUGHTER AGAINST HER MOTHER, AND A DAUGHTER-IN-LAW AGAINST HER MOTHER-IN-LAW;** ³⁶ **and A MAN'S ENEMIES WILL BE THE MEMBERS OF HIS HOUSEHOLD.**

³⁷ "**He who loves father or mother more than Me is not worthy of Me; and he who loves son or daughter more than Me is not worthy of Me.** ³⁸ "**And he who does not take his cross and follow after Me is not worthy of Me.** ³⁹ "He who has found his life will lose it, and **he who has lost his life for My sake will find it.**

Matthew 16:21-27 (NASB95)

²¹ From that time Jesus began to show His disciples that He must go to Jerusalem, and suffer many things from the elders and chief priests and scribes, and be killed, and be raised up on the third day. ²² Peter took Him aside and began to rebuke Him, saying, "God forbid *it*, Lord! This shall never happen to You." ²³ But He turned and said to Peter, "Get behind Me, Satan! You are a stumbling block to Me; for you are not **setting your mind on God 's interests,** but man's."

²⁴ Then Jesus said to His disciples, "**If anyone wishes to come after Me, he must deny himself, and take up his cross and follow Me.** ²⁵ "For whoever wishes to save his life will lose it; but whoever **loses his life for My sake** will find it. ²⁶ "For what will it profit a man if he gains the whole world and forfeits his soul? Or what will a man give in exchange for his soul? ²⁷ "For the Son of Man is going to come in the glory of His Father with His angels, and WILL THEN REPAY EVERY MAN ACCORDING TO HIS DEEDS.

Matthew 19:20-22 (NASB95)

²⁰ The young man said* to Him, "All these things I have kept; what am I still lacking?" ²¹ Jesus said to him, "If you wish to be complete, **go and sell your possessions and give to the poor, and you will have treasure in heaven; and come, follow Me.**" ²² **But when the young man heard this statement, he went away grieving; for he was one who owned much property.**

Mark 8:34-38 (NASB95)

³⁴ And He summoned the crowd with His disciples, and said to them, "**If anyone wishes to come after Me, he must deny himself, and take up his cross and follow Me.**" ³⁵ "For whoever wishes to save his life will lose it, but **whoever loses his life for My sake and the gospel's will save it.**" ³⁶ "For what does it profit a man to gain the whole world, and forfeit his soul?" ³⁷ "For what will a man give in exchange for his soul?" ³⁸ "For **whoever is ashamed of Me and My words in this adulterous and sinful generation, the Son of Man will also be ashamed of him when He comes in the glory of His Father with the holy angels.**"

Luke 9:57-62 (NASB95)

⁵⁷ As they were going along the road, someone said to Him, "I will follow You wherever You go."
⁵⁸ And Jesus said to him, "The foxes have holes and the birds of the air *have* nests, but **the Son of Man has nowhere to lay His head.**" ⁵⁹ And He said to another, "**Follow Me.**" But he said, "Lord, permit me first to go and bury my father." ⁶⁰ But He said to him, "**Allow the dead to bury their own dead; but as for you, go and proclaim everywhere the kingdom of God.**"
⁶¹ Another also said, "I will follow You, Lord; but first permit me to say good-bye to those at home." ⁶² But Jesus said to him, "**No one, after putting his hand to the plow and looking back, is fit for the kingdom of God.**"

John 10:26-30 (NASB95)

²⁶ "But you do not believe because you are not of My sheep. ²⁷ "**My sheep hear My voice, and I know them, and they follow Me; ²⁸ and I give eternal life to them, and they will never perish; and no one will snatch them out of My hand. ²⁹ My Father, who has given them to Me, is greater than all; and no one is able to snatch them out of the Father's hand.**" ³⁰ "I and the Father are one."

John 12:24-26 (NASB95)

²⁴ "Truly, truly, I say to you, **unless a grain of wheat falls into the earth and dies, it remains alone; but if it dies, it bears much fruit.**" ²⁵ "He who loves his life loses it, and **he who hates his life in this world will keep it to life eternal.**" ²⁶ "**If anyone serves Me, he must follow Me; and where I am, there My servant will be also;** if anyone serves Me, the Father will honor him.

John 13:31-38 (NASB95)

³¹ Therefore when he had gone out, Jesus said* , "Now is the Son of Man glorified, and God is glorified in Him; ³² if God is glorified in Him, God will also glorify Him in Himself, and will glorify Him immediately. ³³ "Little children, I am with you a little while longer. You will seek Me; and as I said to the Jews, now I also say to you, 'Where I am going, you cannot come.' ³⁴ "**A new commandment I give to you, that you love one another, even as I have loved you, that you also love one another.**" ³⁵ "By this all men will know that you are My disciples, if you have love for one another."
³⁶ Simon Peter said* to Him, "Lord, where are You going?" Jesus answered, "Where I go, you cannot follow Me now; but you will follow later." ³⁷ Peter said* to Him, "Lord, why can I not follow You right now? I will lay down my life for You." ³⁸ Jesus answered* , "Will you lay down your life for Me? Truly, truly, I say to you, a rooster will not crow until you deny Me three times.

1 Corinthians 11:1 (NASB95)

¹ **Be imitators of me, just as I also am of Christ.**