

Week 1:

Surrender

JESUS FOLLOWER

CHRISTIAN PRACTICES FOR
THE NEW WAY OF LIFE

Questions

1. What illustration, story or scripture had the greatest impact on you this week?
2. "To be right with God, believe in Jesus. To experience God, follow Jesus." You can believe in a healthy lifestyle, but it takes following that lifestyle to experience it. What areas in life have you seen and felt that difference when you've not only believed, but also followed?
3. What practices in daily life show someone has surrendered to Jesus as a believer and a follower?
4. Read Psalm 25:4. What area in your life needs God's help to show you the right road to follow? Where are you struggling with lack of direction in your life?
5. Read 2 Corinthians 5:17. Pastor John encourages us that a lifetime of surrender is part of being an authentic follower of Jesus. What have you sacrificed and surrendered from your old life in order to follow Jesus? (Have you sacrificed time, relationships, activities, resources, selfish/unhealthy desires?)
6. Pastor John referred to believing and following as two pedals on a bicycle. It takes both pedals to propel the bike. Share 1 or 2 practical steps you can take this week to not only be that believer/"occasional caller" but also a surrendering follower. How are you going to keep the pedals propelling your life forward to what God has planned for your life? Commit to praying for each other to keep pedaling this week!

Scripture References

John 8:12	Matthew 4:19	Mark 2:14
Matthew 19:21	Psalm 25:41	1 Corinthians 11:1
Galatians 2:20	John 15:5	2 Corinthians 5:17

Takeaways

- To be right with God, believe in Jesus. To experience God, follow Jesus.
- If you want God's "abundant life", you must move from merely believing in Jesus to believing and following.
- 5 Practices for Following Jesus
 - Surrender
 - Prayer
 - Seeking God's word
 - Serving God's work now
 - Loving other believers

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- Following Jesus is as simple as this: You keep taking your next step.
- Not just a moment of belief, but a lifetime of surrender.
- Religion = performing to earn God's approval.
Following Jesus = believing Jesus' performance and living from a new identity.
- Gathering weekly at a Jesus-centered church will give you a jumpstart on all 5 practices.

Weekly Action Step

How can you move from being an occasional caller to having your identity centered on being a Jesus follower?

If you are a Jesus follower, ask God to help you recommit your true identity as a believer and follower of Jesus.

Commit to being an active part of the rest of this Jesus Follower series.