

FOLLOW CLOSELY

in Christ's Kingdom Priorities

KINGDOM PRIORITY #1 - FOLLOW

September 11, 2016 • Luke 4:42-5:11 • Pastor Ben Miller

Introduction:

Big Idea: _____ Jesus _____ in all things.

Four Focal Points Necessary to Follow Jesus Closely:

1. Follow with c_____ of _____
focused on Christ's _____.

2. Follow with c_____ of _____
focused on Christ's _____.

3. Follow with c_____ of _____
focused on Christ's _____.

4. Follow with c_____ of _____
focused on Christ's _____.

Personal Reflection and Application:

1. Am I focused on Christ's kingdom purposes in every area of life and every decision of my life?
2. Am I consistently acting in commitment of faith that seeks out and relies on what Christ has revealed in his word?
3. Am I motivated to confess sin and put it to death as I see the authority of Christ in my life?
4. Am I confidently sharing the good news about Jesus with the lost because I understand the call of Christ on my life?

Gospel Community Discussion Questions:

- 1) What causes us to lose focus in our pursuit of following Christ? What people, activities or things might demand our attention, allegiance and following instead of Christ?
- 2) Read Luke 4:42-44. How does his clarity of purpose focused on the kingdom help us follow him? Why is clarity of purpose so important to following Jesus?
- 3) Read Luke 5:1-5. What excuses *could* Peter have made to Jesus' request? Can you identify any similar excuses that we make instead of following through with a commitment of faith to Christ's word?
- 4) Read Luke 5:5-7. Notice the difference in results when Christ speaks in power, versus the previous night's catch. In what ways do we see a similar difference in results when we rely on our own power versus relying on Christ's power through faith?
- 5) Read Luke 5:8-10a (*ending with "partners with Simon"*). Why does "astonishment" or "awe" at Christ's authority lead Simon Peter (and us) to the point of confessing sin? Why is this confession an important part of following Jesus?
- 6) Read Luke 10b-11. Notice how Jesus leads Simon Peter in his reverent fear of the Lord into a calling to which Simon Peter will joyfully and confidently submit. How does Jesus' call on our own lives to "make disciples" give us confidence in the place of fear for the mission he sets before us?
(see also Matt. 24:14, Matt. 28:18-20, Luke 24:45-48, 1 Pet. 2:9-12 & 1 Pet. 3:15-16)

Breakout Time

Split your group into men and women to pray for one another and hold one another accountable. Catch up on ongoing prayer/accountability requests, and cry out to God for one another and for those to whom you are taking the gospel.