

Let Us Follow Jesus, God's Only Begotten Son

“For you have been called for this purpose, since Christ also suffered for you, leaving you an example for you to follow in His steps,” - 1Peter 2:21

Why Follow Jesus?

- Christ is our example – “in His steps.”
- Christ is more than an example, He is the founder and beginner of our faith.
– Hebrews 12:2
- He is God – Hebrews 1:8

Why Is Christ Our Worthy Example?

- He is the only begotten Son of God
– John 3:16 – involves His deity and authority.
- He lived a perfect life – Hebrews 4:14-15.
- We should “walk as He walked” – 1John 2:5-6
- “In Him” – close association with Him.
- He is the Pattern for our living after His living.

Let Us Think As Jesus Thought – Philippians 2:5

- With our mind we learn, which determines how we feel – attitude.
- Jesus always “thought” to do the Father’s will – 1Peter 4:1
- Sometimes we can “think” wrong even when we want to think right – Saul in Acts 26:9.
- Must let the “mind of God” determine what we must think and do.

The Mind Of Jesus Toward His Fellow- man – Philippians 2:1-8

- Counted them better than Himself, looked after the things of others by surrendering His rights as God, becoming man, living in all things as a man, living as a servant, dying upon the cross for all men.
- We must think the same way toward our fellow-man.

The Mind Of Jesus Toward Sin

Matthew 15:17-19

- Sin is an unwillingness to do what God asks us to do; or to do differently from what He asks us to do – 1John 3:4.
- The heart (mind) is the cause of sin.
- To control sin we must control the heart.
- There is a great battle between God and Satan for the hearts of men.
- Vs 19 lists some sins which center in and come from the heart – thereby is a man defiled.

Christ And Peter – Matthew 16:21-26

- Christ corrects Peter for “thinking” as a man thinks rather than as God thinks.
- Peter asserts that Jesus will not suffer at the hands of His enemies.
- Jesus calls Peter Satan because he thought to prevent this.
- Jesus said Peter was thinking as men thought and not as God thought.

Things On Which We Should Think.

- “Things above” – Colossians 3:2 – God’s realm, the realm of the spiritual, heavenly things.
- Not things of the earth, the world, temporary.
- “These things” – Philippians 4:8
- “True”=in accord with the word of God, Thy word is truth (John 17:17)
- “Honorable” =dignified, reputable – things that make us think of God, His word, His church, worship, and praise of Him.

Things On Which We Should Think.

- “Just”=fair – things honest, dealing fairly with people, maintains right relations.
- “Pure”=wholesome – having a good character, love, goodness, self-control.
- “Lovely”=beautiful and uplifting – sweet disposition, a spirit of service, kindly.
- “Of good report”=things gracious – things which are courteous, deeds which show good manners, well spoken of.

Let Us Think As Jesus Thought

- On Things virtuous
- On Things praise worthy
- On things received from Paul's preaching and seen in his life.
- On Things learned, received, heard, and saw in Paul – do these things and the God of peace will be with you.