



Real Followers

By Taylor Braswell on December 3, 2021

READING: Matthew 8

When I was in college, I asked someone to mentor me. This brother in Christ was older and more spiritually mature than me. My mentor began to meet with me, but he wanted to meet at 5 and 6 a.m. Other days he wanted me to lift weights with him and some other Christian guys. As a college student who enjoyed sleeping in, I realized I did not really want this person to mentor me. I liked the idea of him mentoring me, but when I realized all that came with the commitment, I was not serious about it.

In Matthew 8:19, Jesus met a man who seemed like he really wanted to follow him. Unlike my mentor, Jesus knew this man had not realized what it would cost to follow him. Jesus tells the man that following him may mean he will have no home! Another follower of Jesus asked if he could bury his father before following Jesus. This man may have meant that he wanted to wait until his father died so he could get his inheritance before following Jesus. Jesus was making it clear that when you follow Him, He is all you will have and need. Jesus wants our full trust and all our affections!

Many people believe in the prosperity gospel without even realizing it. God, for some people, is a means to an end. People want a safe, happy, good life and they want to go to heaven when they die. Church, having Jesus is the best life you can have, and that means life will be difficult. Jesus wants followers who fully trust Him and have really given their lives to Him. Jesus does not want people who claim to follow Him but are really living for money or themselves.

PRAYER: God, help me assess what I am giving my affections to each day. Help me trust You fully in every circumstance.

TOMORROW'S READING: Weekend is for catch-up and review.

MONDAY'S READING: Matthew 9

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