

5 STEPS TO *Follow Jesus*

When it comes to following Jesus, the heart behind our actions is just as important as our actions themselves. These practical steps will help you align your daily routine with your desire to truly follow Jesus and grow in your relationship with Him.

1 PRIORITIZE YOUR RELATIONSHIP WITH HIM.

Spend time daily with Jesus. Pray, read your Bible, participate in a local church, sing worship songs, or still yourself in quiet. The list goes on. These practices are essential for anyone who really wants to follow Jesus. How will you follow someone you don't love? And how will you love Him if you don't trust Him? And how will you trust Him if you don't know Him? It is in these up-close times that Jesus teaches us who He is, and therefore who He wants us to become.



2 IMPLEMENT WHAT YOU LEARN

Practice what Jesus preaches. Knowing a lot about Christianity or the Bible isn't the goal—the goal is to become like Jesus. So, if you want to follow Jesus you need to do what He taught.



3 SURROUND YOURSELF WITH GODLY COMMUNITY

Seriously, you can't follow Jesus alone. You need others. You will grow spiritually so much more quickly when surrounded by mature followers of Jesus. When we are together, we spur one another on to boldly and sacrificially follow Jesus—it just happens.



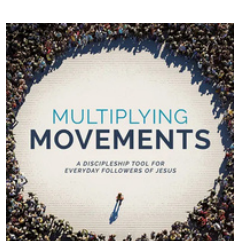
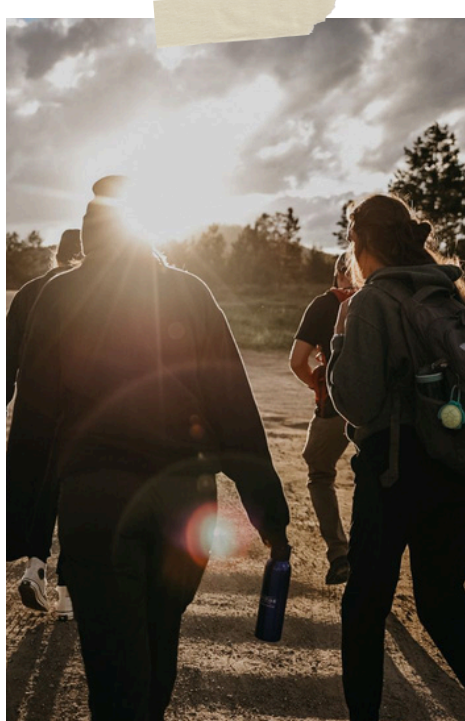
4 COUNT THE COST

Following Jesus is NOT free. I know that sounds heretical. It's not. Let me clarify. Salvation is a free gift. You are saved by the grace of God—by what Jesus did on the cross. This freedom from the consequences of your sin is not something you can earn, so there's no need to try. That being said, Jesus clearly teaches us that following Him will come at a great cost. See Luke 9, Luke 14, and Matthew 8. What these passages (among others) make very clear is that following Jesus will be very hard. You should not expect life with Jesus to be easy. It is wonderful and satisfying, that's true! But it is not easy.



5 ENGAGE THE DAILY REALITY OF FOLLOWING JESUS

It can be easy to think of the first four things on this list as “one time” or “once in a while” acts. That's not true. Following Jesus is a daily choice. I daily spend time with Him. I daily obey His commands, I daily engage the cost of following Jesus, and as often as possible, I surround myself with fellow believers. Honestly, sacrificially loving Jesus is easy for like three days; but try three months, three years, or three decades. That changes the story. When we engage Jesus daily, we are following Him the way He intended.



If you are looking for more practical next steps, consider checking out [Multiplying Movements](#). It is a Forge resource designed to help the everyday follower of Jesus grow, mature and multiply to others.

