

Why do we need to follow?



Jesus...

- We get Jesus and relationship--He's all we need
 - Frees us from sin and our brokenness.
 - Frees us from this evil world.
 - Frees us from death.
 - Connects us back to God.
 - Transforms/changes us.
 - Gives us the Holy Spirit to live inside us.
 - Is the way, truth, and the life.
- Give us eternal life in heaven with God, rather than eternal life in Hell without God.

How Do I Get Started Following Jesus?



**What do I have to do before
I decide if I like a song or
not?**



**To start following Jesus...
you have to hear him...
You have to meet and encounter
him...**



18 One day as Jesus was walking along the shore of the Sea of Galilee, he saw two brothers—Simon, also called Peter, and Andrew—throwing a net into the water, for they fished for a living. 19 Jesus called out to them, “Come, follow me, and I will show you how to fish for people!” 20 And they left their nets at once and followed him.

21 A little farther up the shore he saw two other brothers, James and John, sitting in a boat with their father, Zebedee, repairing their nets. And he called them to come, too. 22 They immediately followed him, leaving the boat and their father behind.

- Matthew 4

Jesus said...

The Father is the one who sent me, and he is the one who brings people to me.

- John 6:44

How is God the Father bringing people to Jesus today?

- **By being here tonight to hear about Jesus.**
- **Through other people Jesus is living in.**
- **Through the Bible--His word.**

- **To follow Jesus, you must meet Him and make a decision--a daily decision.**



Daily decisions you must make...

1. Do I believe Jesus is real and that He is God's son and He died for my sins and rose from the grave?



16 Yes, God loved the world so much that he gave his only Son, so that everyone who believes in him would not be lost but have eternal life.

- John 3:16



Daily decisions you must make...

2. Do I want to follow Him and live my life for what Jesus wants and not for what I want? It cost your life to follow Jesus.



- **Then Jesus said to his followers, “If any of you want to be my follower, you must stop thinking about yourself and what you want. You must be willing to carry the cross that is given to you for following me.**
 - **Matthew 16:24**



Daily decisions you must make...

3. I want to change my ways for God's ways. Have a sponge heart.

19 So you must change your hearts and lives. Come back to God, and he will forgive your sins.

- Acts 3:19



Following Jesus means you realize you cannot do life on your own--it's you giving up on trying to control life yourself and letting God live inside you so He can change/transform you from your messes and brokenness in order to look like Jesus.

To follow Jesus you have to talk about Him and how you believe in Him.

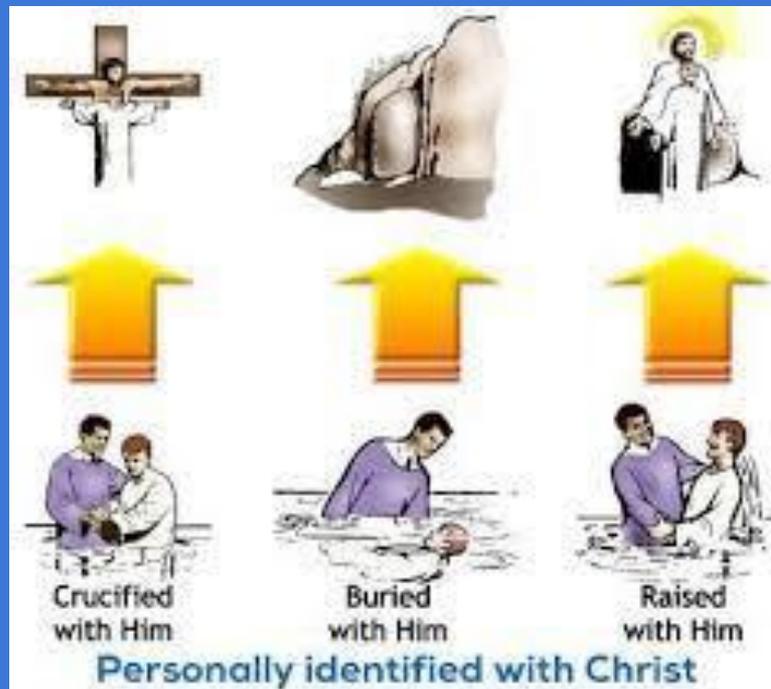
9 If you openly say, “Jesus is Lord” and believe in your heart that God raised him from death, you will be saved.

- Romans 10:9

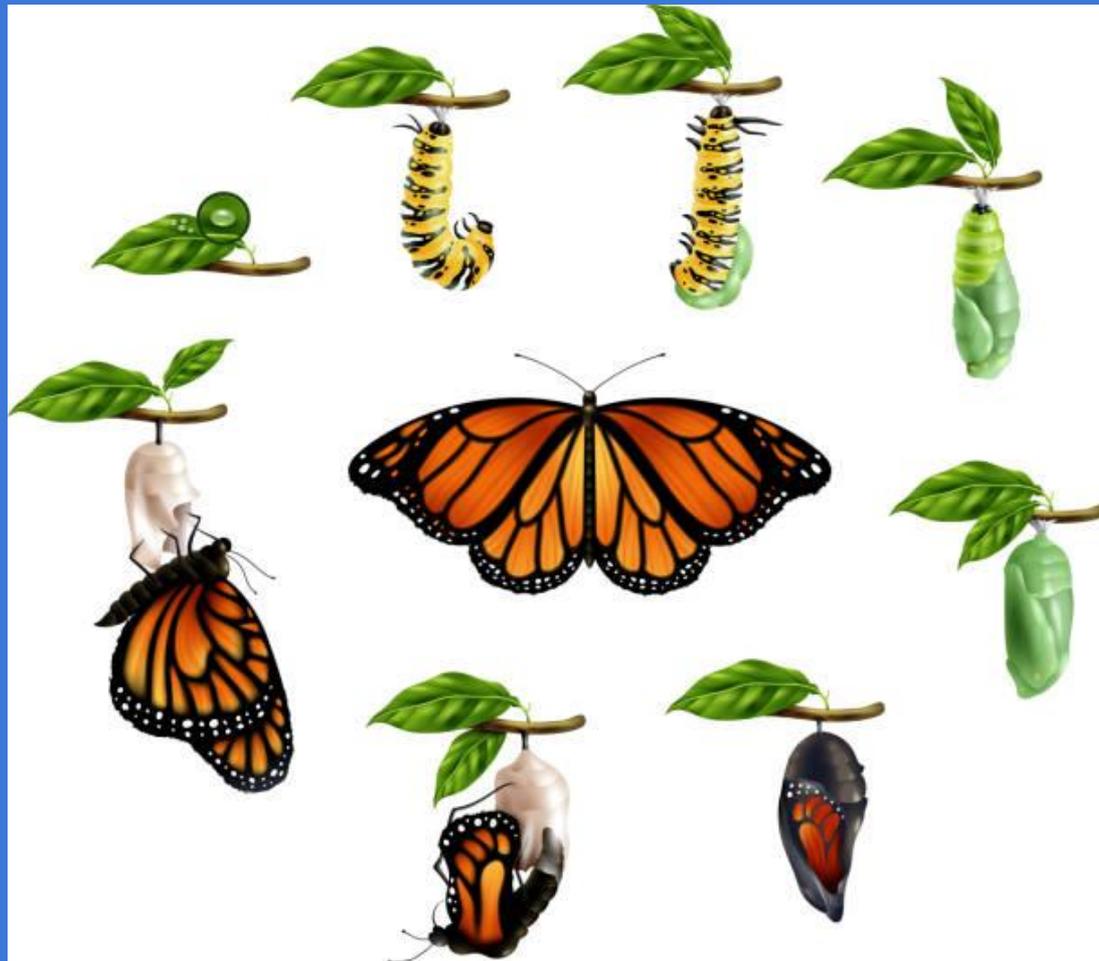


To follow Jesus, you must become a new person and be born again with a Spirit from above.

- 38 Peter said to them, “Change your hearts and lives and be baptized, each one of you, in the name of Jesus Christ. Then God will forgive your sins, and you will receive the gift of the Holy Spirit.
 - Acts 2:38



Followers of Jesus transform--they change, with the help of the Helper--the Holy Spirit.



26 But the Helper, the Holy Spirit whom the Father will send in My name, He will teach you all things, and remind you of all that I said to you.

- John 14:26

