



# INSPI[RED]

the words of Jesus

## **The Week of September 6, 2020 What Does Jesus Say About Following Him? Part 2 Group Discussion Questions**

Following Christ means sharing and caring boldly.

### **Intro Questions**

- Can you think of a time in your life when someone impacted you in a positive way by showing love?
- What are some ways that you've seen the love of Christ shown?
- David said that the church is a living laboratory. How has the Church impacted or changed you?

### **Read Philippians 2:5-8**

Make your own attitude that of Christ Jesus, who, existing in the form of God, did not consider equality with God as something to be used for His own advantage. Instead He emptied Himself by assuming the form of a slave, taking on the likeness of men. And when He had come as a man in His external form, He humbled Himself by becoming obedient to the point of death – even to death on a cross.

- In this passage, Paul is speaking to the Philippian believers as a church family and was asking them as a group to take on the attitude of Christ. What is the attitude of Christ that we are to take on?
- Although churches are full of sinners and things aren't always done right, share a time you've seen the church function in a Christ-like way.
- We don't have control of our feelings or the actions of people around us, but we can control our minds (our attitudes and thoughts) and actions! Are your attitudes and actions aligned with Christ's?

## Read John 13:34-35

“I give you a new command: Love one another. Just as I have loved you, you must also love one another. By this all people will know that you are My disciples, if you have love for one another.”

- This passage is part of a long discourse at the Last Supper. Judas was there getting ready to betray him and Jesus knew it! How is the love of God different than our love?
- If you were to write the script for a Hallmark movie but it wasn't about romantic love (“need love”) but instead was about love in the church (“give love”) what would you include in the script?
- It's said that the church should be the safest place on earth. How can it be that way?
- How can we love audaciously outside the church?

## Read Matthew 28:18-20

Then Jesus came near and said to them, “All authority has been given to Me in heaven and on earth. Go, therefore, and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, teaching them to observe everything I have commanded you. And remember, I am with you always, to the end of the age.”

- David points out that we are missionaries to our town. As a missionary, how is your mission field?
- From this passage, what is Jesus asking us to do?
- Pastor David said “As they did life as a part of the church, they didn't do life alone. They did life as a part of this wonderful, loving community known as the church. Now don't get me wrong, it wasn't all perfect! Along the way they encountered some snarky people too! That's just part of it. I wish everybody in church was perfect, but that's not true! But even the snarky people serve a useful function. They help us understand what it's like to love someone who is difficult and that's not a bad lesson to learn.”
  - Can you think of a time that God has used a difficult person to make you a better person?

## Read Matthew 25:31-36

“When the Son of Man comes in His glory, and all the angels with Him, then He will sit on the throne of His glory. All the nations will be gathered before Him, and He will separate them one from another, just as a shepherd separates the sheep from the goats. He will put the sheep on His right and the goats on the left. Then the King will say to those on His right, ‘Come, you who are blessed by My Father, inherit the kingdom prepared for you from the foundation of the world. For I was hungry and you gave Me something to eat; I was thirsty and you gave Me something to drink; I was a stranger and you took Me in; I was naked and you clothed Me; I was sick and you took care of Me; I was in prison and you visited Me.’

- Does the way you spend your money reflect this kind of compassion?
- Do you see the kind of generosity in your life Jesus is referring to here?
- What about how you spend your time? Do you give of yourself generously to serve and help others?
- If an auditor looked at your bank account and your calendar, what would they say your priorities were?
  
- How can we engage in the difficulties facing us today in a way that shows the love of Christ? Individually? As a church?
- Just because we are living in “unprecedented times” doesn’t mean we have to isolate ourselves completely. There are still ways for us to stay connected as the Body of Christ (the church).
  - How does isolating yourself from the Body of Christ affect you? Are you isolating yourself?
  - Are you serving other believers in the name of Christ? Are you serving people outside the church?

Watch this Clip from this week’s message and pray along with Pastor David:  
<https://vimeo.com/45235212>

### Going Deeper

Get connected in a Group today!  
Check out [icelebration.org/adult-groups](http://icelebration.org/adult-groups) for a complete listing.