

Mt. Lebanon Church

Sermon

1.16.2022

Please look up and read all verses in their entirety. I have only written partial verses.

Make your own notes, write down other scriptures that you run across while studying, write down questions that you may have or comments as well. Allow the Holy Spirit to reveal to you what he would have you to see through the study of God's word.

Christ Call to Follow Him

John 1: 43 – 51

Today we will learn, not only the importance of accepting the saving grace of Jesus Christ, but also the importance of our service to Christ, which takes place once we accept salvation. This is why Christ himself teaches the significance of the two greatest commandments.

Matthew 22: 37 – 39,....Jesus saith unto him, thou shalt love the Lord thy God with all thy heart, and with all thy soul, and with all thy mind....and the second is like unto it, thou shalt love thy neighbor as thyself....

Christ, who is our example of how to gather disciples, is an inspiring story of our own lives, in our quest to spiritual maturity, and it all started with Christ finding us, and calling unto us, to follow him. Serving God is first and foremost about our willingness to do so. Without a willing and submissive heart God cannot use us to accomplish his will. Our destiny is to follow Christ, as Christians this is our primary purpose in life. Following Christ is a decision that we all must make, first he calls us to join his family and as we trust in him, we are born into his family. The indwelling Holy Spirit then equips us and binds us together in the family business, and that business is salvation. Christ calls us first to follow him, then to serve him, then to share him and his goodness to others.

John 1: 43 – 51,....Jesus....findeth Philip, and saith unto him, follow me....Philip findeth Nathanael, and saith unto him....come and see....Jesus saw Nathanael....I saw thee....Here after ye shall see heaven open, and the angels of God ascending and descending upon the Son of Man....

Christ seeks us out, even when we are not looking for him. Through experiencing salvation, we realize that Christ already knows who we are, and what we have done, but he loves us unconditionally anyway. Christ speaks to us through his divine knowledge in the word. We will never be in a situation that Christ is not fully aware of what is going on in our life. Christ knows our heart, he knows our mind, he knows our body, he knows everything about us, and not only does he know us completely, but he fully understands us even though we do not understand ourselves.

Before salvation, we were wandering in worldliness, not looking for God, but through his word, he found us, he called unto us to follow him, to learn from him, to grow in his knowledge and strength, so that we might accept his call on our life and make a lifelong commitment to him. When Christ calls us to follow him, he is assuring us that he is going to lead the way. His personal care for us, can never be matched by any other.

Matthew 11: 28,....come unto to me, all ye that labor and are heavy laden, and I will give you rest....

1 Peter 5: 6 – 7,....humble yourselves therefore under the mighty hand of God, that he may exalt you in due time, casting all your care upon him, for he careth for you....

Psalm 32: 8,.... I will instruct thee and teach thee in the way which thou shalt go, I will guide thee with mine eye....

God personally promises to teach us, to instruct us, to counsel us, to watch over us, step by step, day by day, all that we must do is to seek God first.

Matthew 6: 33,.... but seek ye first the kingdom of God, and his righteousness, and all these things shall be added unto you....

Once we have accepted his saving grace we should want to go and find someone to share the joy of our salvation with. We realize our sins are forgiven, we know that we are a child of God, we understand our service to the Lord, we have the word of God as our guide, and we also have it as the hope of our eternal life in Christ. We cannot think of anything else more exciting in our life then to tell others about the saving grace of Jesus Christ.

Luke 15: 3 – 7,.... and when he cometh home, he calleth together his friends and neighbors, saying unto them, rejoice with me, for I have found my sheep which was lost.... I say unto you, that likewise joy shall be in heaven over one sinner that repenteth....

As believers, we come to a depth of understanding of what our position in Christ truly is. This understanding brings us into a realm of rejoicing in the glory of the only begotten of the Father, full of grace and truth. Our past redemption, our present sanctification, and our future glorification belongs to us, through Christ, who loved us, and gave himself for us. Our love is not based on what we see with our physical eyes, but by faith believing in what we know in our heart. This spiritual understanding comes by the word of God, revealed unto us by the indwelling Holy Spirit. We believe in him, we trust in him, and we rejoice in him. We proclaim Christ as our Lord and God, our savior, and our friend, and by his love we want to profess him to others.

1 John 1: 1 – 4,.... that which we have seen and heard declare we unto you.... and these things write we unto you, that your joy may be full....

Our desire as Christians is to tell everyone all that we have experienced of Gods glory, and of his saving grace. We must be eager to share all that we have learned concerning the word of God, which is the gospel of Christ and the cross. With excitement, we want to share the good news, so that we might join in with the fellowship of the saints. Christ opened the way for our unconditional love, and true forgiveness. For this reason, we follow when we are called, we tell others when the opportunity arises, and we rejoice over every lost soul that comes to the saving grace of Jesus Christ.

Let us pray.

If anyone has any questions, comments or would just like to discuss any of the scriptures, feel free to call, text or email me. Keep praying for each other and all the God lays upon your heart. Hope to see everyone soon. God Bless.

Tim Hughes

304.376.3177 – Text or talk.

Tim.hughes1962@gmail.com

<https://hollowowlfarm.com/>

