

Jesus - The Way

The Argument.

Luke 9 v 46-48

And an argument arose among them as to which of them might be the greatest. But Jesus, knowing what they were thinking in their heart, took a child and stood him by His side, and said to them, "Whoever receives this child in My name receives Me; and whoever receives Me receives Him who sent Me; for he who is least among you, this is the one who is great."

Jesus took a child; can we receive one another in the same way? Jesus is our example; He was a servant of all, even though He was God.

John 3 v 30

He (that is Jesus) must increase, but I must decrease.

John the Baptist meant an increase of the life of Christ in us all. But our reasoning and our opinions get in the way.

Mark 9 v 38-40

John said to Him, "Teacher, we saw someone casting out demons in Your name, and we tried to hinder him because he was not following us." But Jesus said, "Do not hinder him, for there is no-one who shall perform a miracle in My name, and be able soon afterward to speak evil of Me. For he who is not against us is for us."

John 21 v 18-23

"Truly, truly, I say to you, when you were younger, you used to gird yourself, and walk wherever you wished; but when you grow old, you will stretch out your hands, and someone else will gird you, and bring you where you do not wish to go." Now this He said, signifying by what kind of death he would glorify God. And when He had spoken this, He said to him, "Follow me!" Peter, turning around, saw the disciple whom Jesus loved following them; the one who also had leaned back on His breast at the supper, and said, "Lord, who is the one who betrays you?" Peter therefore seeing him said to Jesus, "Lord, and what about this man?" Jesus said to him, "If I want him to remain until I come, what is that to you? You follow me!" This saying therefore went out among the brethren that that disciple would not die; yet Jesus did not say to him that he would not die, but only, "if I want him to remain until I come, what is that to you?"

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We must be careful how we make assessments of others. We should live our own lives in righteousness.

Luke 9 v 51-56

When the days were approaching for His ascension, He was determined to go to Jerusalem; and He sent messengers on ahead of Him, and they went and entered a village of the Samaritans to make arrangements for Him. But they did not receive Him, because He was traveling toward Jerusalem. When His disciples James and John saw this, they said, "Lord, do You want us to command fire to come down from heaven and consume them?" But He turned and rebuked them, and said, "You do not know what kind of spirit you are of; for the Son of Man did not come to destroy men's lives, but to save them." And they went on to another village.

Notice the scripture speaks of His ascension, not His death. Although Jesus knew that death would come first, He nevertheless set His face towards His destiny - resolutely.

Verse 53

But they did not receive Him, because He was traveling toward Jerusalem.

Neither will we be received, even amongst the saints.

Verse 54

When His disciples James and John saw this, they said, "Lord, do You want us to command fire to come down from heaven and consume them?"

His disciples did not understand, they came to Jesus with their own ideas.

Verses 55-56

But He turned and rebuked them, and said, "You do not know what kind of spirit you are of; for the Son of Man did not come to destroy men's lives, but to save them." And they went on to another village.

This is the principal of moving on to those who would receive Him and His word. We can see a further example of this in scripture.

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Luke 10 v 10

But whatever city you enter and they do not receive you, go out into its streets and say, 'Even the dust of your city which clings to our feet, we wipe off in protest against you; yet be sure of this, that the kingdom of God has come near.'

An Exacting Discipleship

Luke 9 v 57

And as they were going along the road someone said to Him, "I will follow You wherever You go."

The man meant it - at the time.

Luke 9 v 58-62

And Jesus said to him, "The foxes have holes and the birds of the air have nests, but the Son of Man has nowhere to lay His head." And He said to another, "Follow Me." But he said, "Lord, permit me first to go and bury my father." But He said to him, "Allow the dead to bury their own dead; but as for you, go and proclaim everywhere the kingdom of God." Another also said, "I will follow You, Lord; but first permit me to say good-bye to those at home." But Jesus said to him, "No one, after putting his hand to the plow and looking back, is fit for the kingdom of God."

Matthew 4 v 18-22

Now as Jesus was walking by the Sea of Galilee, He saw two brothers, Simon who was called Peter, and Andrew his brother, casting a net into the sea; for they were fishermen. And He said to them, "Follow Me, and I will make you fishers of men." Immediately they left their nets and followed Him. Going on from there He saw two other brothers, James the son of Zebedee, and John his brother, in the boat with Zebedee their father, mending their nets; and He called them. Immediately they left the boat and their father, and followed Him.

When Jesus called His first disciples they immediately left their boat and their father and followed Him.

Verse 22

Immediately they left the boat and their father, and followed Him.

This was an immediate response; they went just as they were. Remember Lot's wife? She looked back and turned into a block of salt.

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His Way

Multitudes followed Jesus and He fed them, all 5000. Then the Lord appointed seventy others, seventy out of 5000 (many called-few chosen) - a remnant.

Luke 10 v 1

Now after this the Lord appointed seventy others, and sent them in pairs ahead of Him to every city and place where He Himself was going to come. And He was saying to them, "The harvest is plentiful, but the laborers are few; therefore beseech the Lord of the harvest to send out laborers into His harvest. Go; behold, I send you out as lambs in the midst of wolves. Carry no money belt, no bag, no shoes; and greet no one on the way.

We are sent likewise to places ahead of Jesus, not sent as apostles or prophets but as innocent lambs.

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