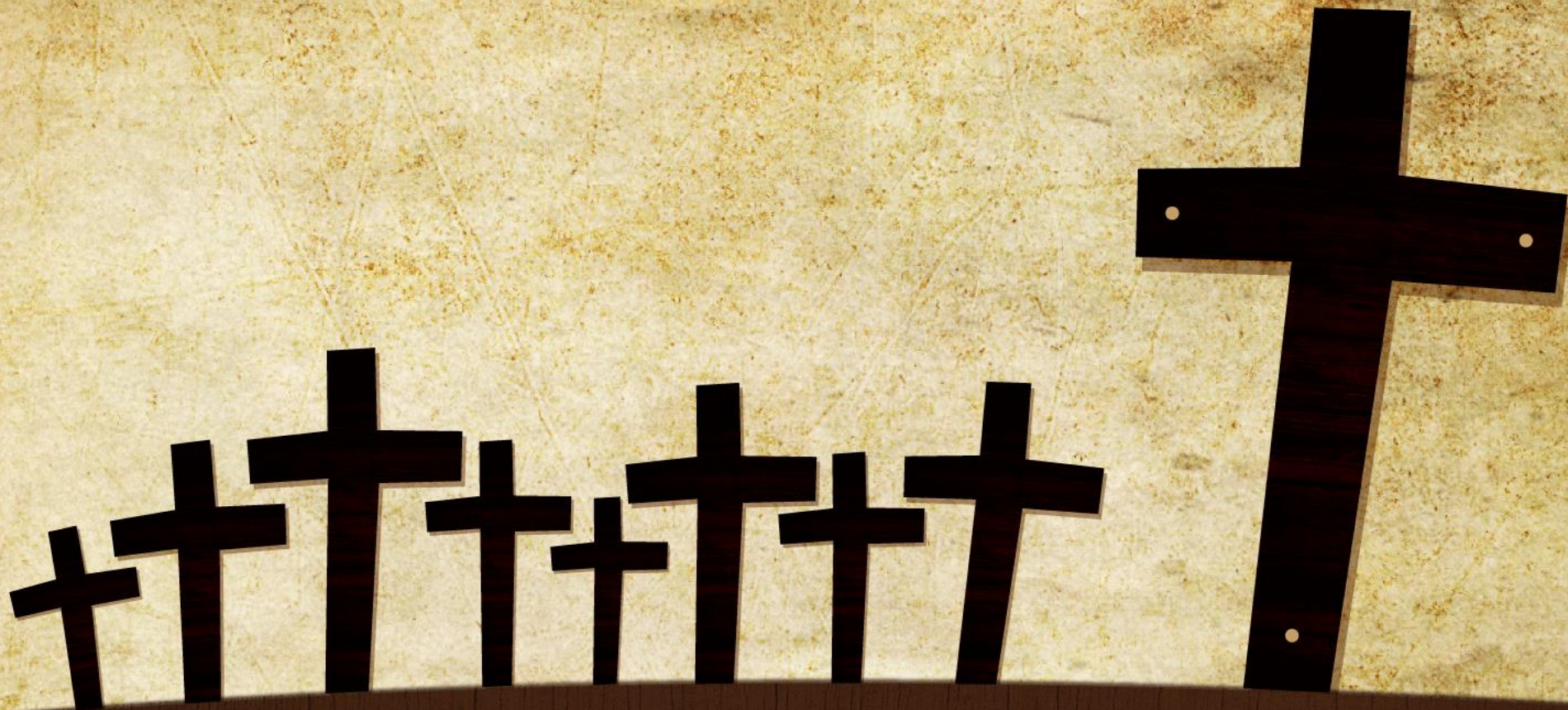




# Discipleship – Follow Me

Matthew 16:24 – Mark 8:34 – Luke 9:23



And he said to all, "If anyone would come after me, let him deny himself and

**TAKE UP HIS CROSS DAILY AND FOLLOW ME."**

Luke 9:23

# “Follow Me”

Occurs **22 times** in the gospels

## **7 times in Matthew**

(4:19; 8:22; 9:9; 10:38; 16:24; 19:21, 28)

## **4 times in Mark**

(1:17; 2:14; 8:34; 10:21)

## **4 times in Luke**

(5:27; 9:23, 59; 18:22)

## **7 times in John**

(1:43; 8:12; 10:27; 12:26; 13:36; 21:19, 22)

Matthew 4:18–20 (ESV)

<sup>18</sup> While walking by the Sea of Galilee, he saw two brothers, Simon (who is called Peter) and Andrew his brother, casting a net into the sea, for they were fishermen. <sup>19</sup> And he said to them,

**“Follow me, and I will make you fishers of men.”**

<sup>20</sup> Immediately they left their nets and followed him.

Matthew 9:9 (ESV)

<sup>9</sup> As Jesus passed on from there, he saw a man called Matthew sitting at the tax booth, and he said to him, **“Follow me.”** And he rose and followed him.

“Jesus of Nazareth always comes asking disciples to follow him-- not merely “accept him,” not merely “believe in him,” not merely “worship him,” but to follow him: one either follows Christ, or one does not. There is no compartmentalization of the faith, no realm, no sphere, no business, no politic in which the lordship of Christ will be excluded. We either make him Lord of all lords, or we deny him as Lord of any.”

— Lee Camp, *Mere Discipleship: Radical Christianity in a Rebellious World*

**Have we forgotten what it means to follow Jesus?**

Luke 9:57–58 (ESV)

<sup>57</sup> As they were going along the road, someone said to him, “I will follow you wherever you go.”

<sup>58</sup> And Jesus said to him, “**Foxes have holes, and birds of the air have nests, but the Son of Man has nowhere to lay his head.**”

2 Timothy 3:12 (ESV)

<sup>12</sup> Indeed, all who desire to live a godly life in Christ Jesus will be **persecuted**

Following Jesus  
does not  
promise comfort

The Creator **Borrowed**  
Everything:

Home

Food

Money

Transportation

Tomb



FOR TO THIS YOU HAVE BEEN CALLED, BECAUSE  
CHRIST ALSO SUFFERED FOR YOU, LEAVING YOU  
AN EXAMPLE, SO THAT YOU MIGHT

**FOLLOW** IN HIS **STEPS.**

1 PETER 2:21

Luke 9:59–60 (ESV)

<sup>59</sup> To another he said, **“Follow me.”** But he said, “Lord, let me first go and bury my father.” <sup>60</sup> And Jesus said to him, **“Leave the dead to bury their own dead. But as for you, go and proclaim the kingdom of God.”**

Matthew 4:19–20 (ESV)

<sup>19</sup> And he said to them, **“Follow me, and I will make you fishers of men.”** <sup>20</sup> **Immediately** they left their nets and followed him.

Following Jesus  
requires  
supreme priority

**“Whatever duties we owe to men must give way, when God enjoins upon us what is immediately due to himself.”**

Calvin, J., & Pringle, W. (2010). *Commentary on a Harmony of the Evangelists Matthew, Mark, and Luke* (Vol. 1, p. 389). Bellingham, WA: Logos Bible Software.

Luke 9:61–62 (ESV)

<sup>61</sup> Yet another said, “I will follow you, Lord, but let me first say farewell to those at my home.”

<sup>62</sup> Jesus said to him, “**No one who puts his hand to the plow and looks back is fit for the kingdom of God.**”

Philippians 3:13–14 (ESV)

<sup>13</sup> Brothers, I do not consider that I have made it my own. But one thing I do: **forgetting what lies behind and straining forward to what lies ahead,**

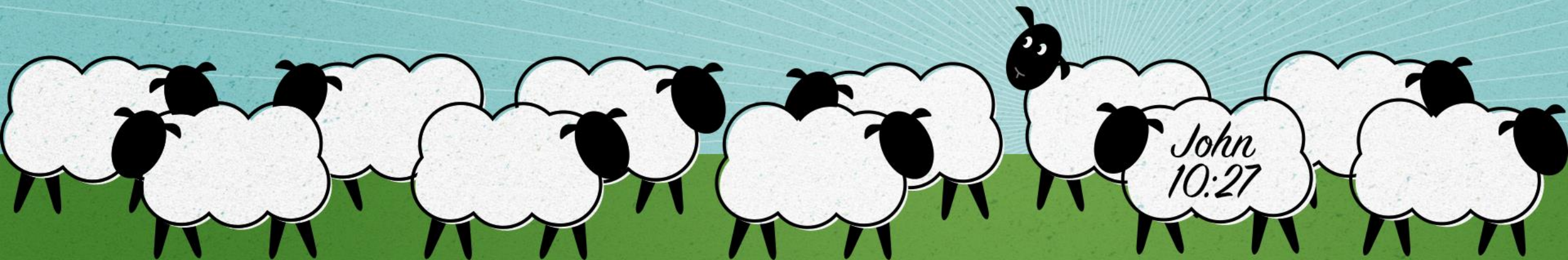
<sup>14</sup> I press on toward the goal for the prize of the upward call of God in Christ Jesus.

## Following Jesus requires complete devotion

“Those are not fit for heaven who, having set their faces heavenward, face about. But he, and he only, that *endures to the end, shall be saved.*”

\*Henry, M. (1994). *Matthew Henry's commentary on the whole Bible: complete and unabridged in one volume* (p. 1855). Peabody: Hendrickson.

*My sheep hear my voice,  
and I know them,  
and they follow me.*



# Not just in action, but in HEART

Philippians 2:1–5 (NASB95)

- 1 Therefore if there is any encouragement in Christ, if there is any consolation of love, if there is any fellowship of the Spirit, if any affection and compassion,
- 2 make my joy complete by being of the same mind, maintaining the same love, united in spirit, intent on one purpose.
- 3 Do nothing from selfishness or empty conceit, but with humility of mind regard one another as more important than yourselves;
- 4 do not *merely* look out for your own personal interests, but also for the interests of others.
- 5 **Have this attitude in yourselves which was also in Christ Jesus,**

Again Jesus spoke to them, saying,

**“I am the light of the world.**

**Whoever follows me will  
not walk in darkness,**

**but will have the light of life.”**

John 8:12