



Acknowledgement of material used John Mark Comer

Who is Jesus of Nazareth?

We often think of Jesus as the Son of God (deity) or the Messiah of Israel (“the Christ” — the long awaited promised king of Israel who would become the king of the world), but if you were a first-century Jew watching Jesus and listening to him teach in the local synagogue, there is a first-century category that you would have immediately placed him in — Jesus was also a “Rabbi” (a *Teacher*).

A Rabbi would travel from town to town with his *yoke* (his set of teachings and way of reading the Torah/ Scriptures). Of the 90 times that Jesus is referred to in the Gospels, around 60 of those times (67%) he is referred to as Rabbi or Teacher, and so that has all sorts of implications for what it means to follow Jesus.

Read the following passages and notice what is Jesus calling people to do?

Mark 1:16-20

Mark 2:13-14

Mark 3:13-19

Mark 8:34 -37

Read Luke 9:57-62. If Jesus wants us to follow Him then what do you think he is trying to convey to this man who seems keen to be a disciple?

In your own words, describe the difference between someone who admires Jesus and someone who follows Jesus.

Remember from the talk that the goal of a first-century disciple was to be with their rabbi 24/7, to become like their rabbi and to do what your rabbi does. This is the model of discipleship that Jesus wants us to lean into.

To give you a heads up where this series is going and workshops to help you grow, see over the page (also for link to TCBC Discipleship survey). **Share with each other about what excites or interests you most about growing and learning as an apprentice of Jesus over the coming weeks. What are one or two practices that you are most looking forward to growing in?**



Be with Jesus

“The first and most basic thing we can and must do is to keep God before our minds...This is the fundamental secret of caring for our souls. Our part in thus practicing the presence of God is to direct and redirect our minds constantly to him. In the early time of our “practicing” we may well be challenged by our burdensome habits of dwelling on things less than God. But these are habits — not the law of gravity — and can be broken. A new, grace-filled habit will replace the former ones as we take intentional steps toward keeping God before us. Soon our minds will return to God as the needle of a compass constantly returns to the north. If God is the great longing of our souls, he will become the pole star of our inward beings.” — Dallas Willard

Become like Jesus

“Spiritual formation in the Christian tradition is a process of increasingly being possessed and permeated by the character traits (of Jesus) as we walk in the easy yoke of discipleship with Jesus our teacher...” — Dallas Willard

Do what Jesus did

Our job is not to just know a lot of stuff about Jesus; it is to join in on participating in the kingdom work that Jesus started. This could include -preaching the gospel of the kingdom, teaching the way of the kingdom, healing the sick, casting out demons, eating and drinking with people far from God, doing justice, peacemaking, praying, prophesying, standing up against religious and political corruption and much more!

This kind of life won't just happen or even just be taught; it takes a life built around practice and community.

- What are 1-2 thing(s) you can do to begin building your life around practice and community?

During this series we will be facilitating some mid week workshops to help you grow in the specific practices you want to. See the **TCBC monthly newsletter** for the specific dates of these workshops.

Being with Jesus

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|---|--|---------------------------------|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Silence & Solitude | <input type="checkbox"/> Sabbath | <input type="checkbox"/> Prayer |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Fasting | <input type="checkbox"/> Bible Reading | |

Becoming like Jesus

- | | | |
|--|---|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Discovering my identity and purpose | <input type="checkbox"/> Forgiving as we have been forgiven | <input type="checkbox"/> Embrace grieving and loss |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Simple living | <input type="checkbox"/> Community | |

Doing the works of Jesus

- | | | |
|--|--|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Eating and drinking / hospitality | <input type="checkbox"/> Teaching/ encouraging people from the Bible | <input type="checkbox"/> Sharing/preaching the gospel |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Peacemaking / Doing justice | <input type="checkbox"/> Being a redemptive influence in the marketplace | |

If you haven't done the **TCBC Discipleship Survey** – please spend 5 minutes now to do it. Here is the link or scan this QR code <https://forms.gle/RvRemXdWtzYmYp517>

