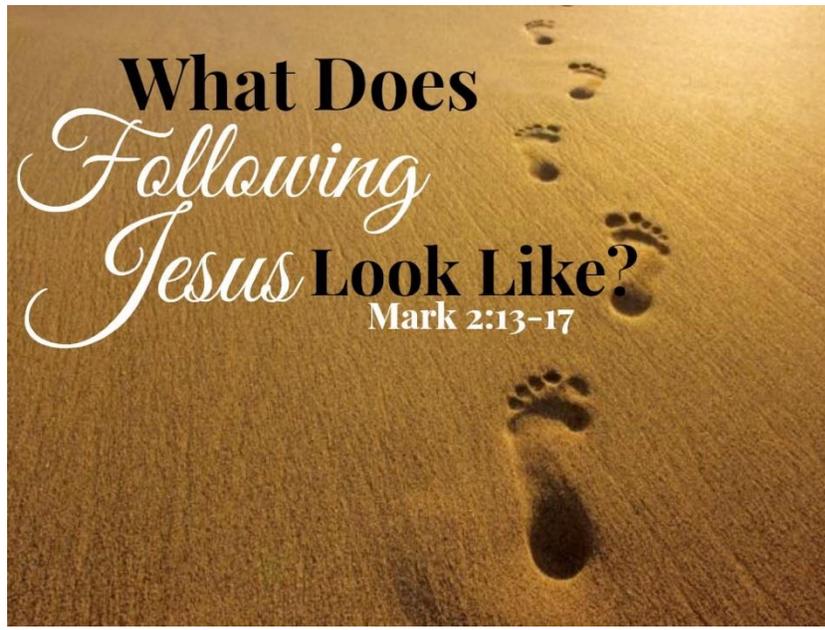


## SERMON RECAPS - Listen, Read Notes, Reflect



### February 5 – [Improving Your Serve](#)

If we are going to be like Jesus, we need to do the things that he did.

John 13:17 *“Now that you know these things, you will be blessed if you do them.”*

God wants us to be servants **FIRST**, leaders second, happy second, etc.

#### **SERVING LIKE JESUS**

1. Service must flow directly from love.
  2. Jesus got nothing from service...in addition, he **WASHED** the feet of the one who he knew would betray him!
  3. We need to also **BE** served, at time.
  4. Leaders, especially, are called to serve.
  5. Do not think you are greater because you chose servanthood.
  6. The blessing comes in **DOING** the act, not just **THINKING** about it.
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## February 12 – [Following the Spiritual Life of Jesus](#)

This is not just a list of spiritual practices that we need to do (prayer, Bible study, giving, worship, living simply, etc.) This is a look at two of Jesus' priorities and how they were most central to Him and impacted His life as a human.

### **The first one: Work on doing the will of God!**

- John 4:34 *“My food,” said Jesus, “is to do the will of Him who sent me and to finish His work.”*
- John 6:38 *“For I have come down from heaven not to do my will but to do the will of Him who sent me.”*
- Matt 7:21 *“Not everyone who says to me, ‘Lord, Lord,’ will enter the kingdom of heaven, BUT only the one who does the will of my Father who is in heaven.”*
- Matt 12:48-50 *“He replied to him, “Who is my mother, and who are my brothers?” Pointing to his disciples, he said, “Here are my mother and my brothers. For whoever does the will of my Father in heaven is my brother and sister and mother.”*

If we were to ask the question, “What is the will of God?” for every decision, every crisis, every hurdle, every challenge, every rough time, we would come up with answers that were guilt free, regret free, and free from failure.

### **The second one: Love others!**

- Matt. 22:37-40 *Jesus replied: “‘Love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your mind.’ This is the first and greatest commandment. And the second is like it: ‘Love your neighbor as yourself.’ All the Law and the Prophets hang on these two commandments.”*
- John 15:9-11 *“As the Father has loved me, so have I loved you. Now remain in my love. If you keep my commands, you will remain in my love, just as I have kept my Father’s commands and remain in his love. I have told you this so that my joy may be in you and that your joy may be complete.”*
- 1 Cor. 13:13 *“And now these three remain: faith, hope and love. But the greatest of these is love.”*
- Eph. 3:17-19 *“And I pray that you, being rooted and established in love, may have power, together with all the Lord’s holy people, to grasp how wide and long and high and deep is the love of Christ, and to know this love that surpasses knowledge—that you may be filled to the measure of all the fullness of God.”*
- 1 John 4:8 *“Whoever does not love does not know God, because God is love.”*
- 1 John 4:12 *“No one has ever seen God; but if we love one another, God lives in us and his love is made complete in us.”*

The two pillars for answering the question of success and happiness are LOVING one another and DOING the will of God. Implementing these two foundations in your life will result in less wasted time, less dissatisfaction and lead to much higher feelings of self-worth.

### **Good questions to ask:**

1. **Am I seeking His will?**
  2. **Am I doing His will?**
  3. **Is His love living in me?**
  4. **Am I loving the way He wants me to?**
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## February 19 – [Following Jesus in a Life of Praise](#)

Congregational sharing from both services are on the podcast.

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## February 26 – [Following Jesus with our Finances](#)

We are people who declare, “Jesus is Lord! Jesus is OUR Lord!” Our giving has little to do with the organization to which we belong and everything to do with the ONE to whom we belong.

Read 2 Cor 8:1-15 Paul talks about the grace God has given, this is talking about the grace of giving. It is a privilege! “...*They gave themselves first of all to the Lord, and then by the will of God also to us.*”

### **Jesus is our Lord and we give ourselves to Him first!**

*Acts 4:32-35 “All the believers were one in heart and mind. No one claimed that any of their possessions was their own, but they shared everything they had. With great power the apostles continued to testify to the resurrection of the Lord Jesus. And God’s grace was so powerfully at work in them all that there were no needy persons among them. For from time to time those who owned land or houses sold them, brought the money from the sales and put it at the apostles’ feet, and it was distributed to anyone who had need.”*

They share everything that they have and the power to do so is because of the LORD! They act in total contrast to the people around them!

*“The joys of life are simply not dependant on what you have. The joy of life is found in a life of Christ and serving others.”* From immigrants who gave up all their significant wealth to make a life in Canada.

Give the things away that dominate you and you end up with more joy in the end. That’s exactly how God says it is going to be! When the lordship of Jesus begins to impact your life as God wants, the control that your finances have had over your life begins to be supplanted by the control of the Lord Jesus over your finances. The result is a transference from what you think is going to be joy to a real joy! You go from thinking something is a priority to something that really should be priority; and God in the process will bless you!

### **So, what do we do?**

Make sure the lordship of Jesus has an impact on, and a place in, your monthly budget. Start with March 2017! You should seriously think about rendering to God what is God’s. Once you have said that Jesus is Lord, things in your life should change.