

DIFFICULT QUESTIONS, HONEST ANSWERS Session 3

The Question: What does it mean to really follow Jesus?

For God so loved the world that He gave His only Son, that whosoever believes in Him shall not perish but have eternal life.
John 3:16

- Believe = a commitment _____

Scripture #1

(Jesus) Enter through the narrow gate – for wide is the gate and broad is the road that leads to destruction. Many enter through it. But small is the gate and narrow the road that leads to life – and only a few find it. Matthew 7:13-14

- Two Gates: The _____ gate and the _____ gate

(Jesus) I warn you – unless your righteousness is better than the righteousness of the teachers of religious law and the Pharisees, you will never enter the Kingdom of Heaven. Matthew 5:20

- Two Roads: The _____ road and the _____ road
- The gate is something you pass through _____. But the road is something you _____.
- Jesus puts the two together: You enter through the _____ - and you're to stay on the _____.
- Following Jesus isn't just a _____ decision. It's a _____ commitment to stay on the narrow road.
- Two Destinations: _____ and _____
- Two Groups of People: The _____ and the _____

Key Truths

- Don't believe that in the end _____.
- Don't believe that in the end there are _____ to eternal life in heaven.

Jesus said, "I am the way, the truth, and the life. No one can come to the Father except through Me. John 14:6
There is salvation in no one else. God has given no other name under heaven by which we must be saved. Acts 4:12

Jesus said, "...Unless you believe that I am who I claim to be, you will die in your sins." John 8:24

- _____ of Americans with a religious affiliation say that many religions can lead to eternal life in heaven.
- Don't believe that you've entered the narrow gate if your _____ the broad road.
- The stunning message of Christianity: Jesus died for us so that He might _____ in us. Jesus doesn't merely improve our _____. He gives us an entirely _____.

Scripture #2

Jesus said to His disciples, "If anyone would come after me, he must deny himself and take up his cross and follow me. For whoever wants to save his life will lose it, but whoever loses his life for me will find it. Matthew 16:24-25

- Come after me = _____
- Deny yourself = _____ everything you hold dear
- Take up your cross = _____

Scripture #3

(Jesus) Not everyone who says to me, "Lord! Lord!" will enter the Kingdom of Heaven. Only those who actually do the will of my Father in heaven will enter. On judgment day many will say to me, "Lord! Lord! We prophesied in your name and cast out demons in your name and performed many miracles in your name." But I will reply, "I never knew you. Get away from me, you who break God's laws." Matthew 7:21-23

- Do you think it's possible to go through the motions of the Christian life without actually being a Christian? To do some pretty spectacular things without having experienced salvation?

(David) O God, you are my God. Earnestly I seek you; my soul thirsts for you, my body longs for you in a dry and weary land where there is no water. Psalm 63:1-2

"If you look for Me with all your heart, you will find Me. I will be found by you," says the Lord. Jeremiah 29:13

As you get to know Him better, you'll change. A vibrant and intimate relationship with God will empower you to heal from the hurts of your past, forgive what seems unforgivable, and change what seems unchangeable about yourself...Instead of living for yourself and for the moment, you'll live for Christ and for eternity. Your heart will begin to break for the reasons and causes that break God's heart...As you get to know Him, you'll live boldly for Him. Knowing God will make you ache to tell others about Him. When you get to know God, you will never be the same. –Craig Groeschel