What Following Jesus is Really All About

What the World Needs Now, Week Two

What we often think is important is really secondary.

When it comes to what the Christian life is all about - what following Jesus is all about, it's often not about the things we think it's about...

- Having a large and impactful ministry of reaching and teaching the masses.
- Knowing more about the Bible and having deep insight into truth.
- Being gifted by the Spirit in overtly visible ways.
- Doing works of kindness for the poor and those in need.

But following Jesus isn't actually about those things.

**Following Jesus is simply about becoming love.**

1 Corinthians 13:1-3 NLT

If I could speak all the languages of earth and of angels, but didn't love others, I would only be a noisy gong or a clanging cymbal. If I had the gift of prophecy, and if I understood all of God's secret plans and possessed all knowledge, and if I had such faith that I could move mountains, but didn't love others, I would be nothing. If I gave everything I have to the poor and even sacrificed my body, I could boast about it; but if I didn't love others, I would have gained nothing.

That's actually a relief.

- You don't have to measure up.
- You don't have to prove yourself.
- You don't have to get it all right.

You just need to become love to people and blame Jesus for the results.

We get to model the life of Jesus and carry his message with us, and that happens primarily as we become and show love to people.
Paul then throws down some challenging words about what that looks like...

**1 Corinthians 13:4-7 NLT**

Love is patient and kind. Love is not jealous or boastful or proud or rude. It does not demand its own way. It is not irritable, and it keeps no record of being wronged. It does not rejoice about injustice but rejoices whenever the truth wins out. Love never gives up, never loses faith, is always hopeful, and endures through every circumstance.

Here’s the thing about this list of the attributes of true love... **You and I are incapable of loving at this level in our own natural power. We are dependent on the Holy Spirit enabling us to love others in a God-like way.**

So this passage isn’t a to do list. It’s not a checklist of requirements. Instead, it’s a picture of what **God's love** looks like.

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**The only way to love like God loves is to let God love through you.**

And then Paul lets us know that at the end of it all - when life is over and the race is finished, only one thing will matter...

**1 Corinthians 8:1-13 NLT**

8 Prophecy and speaking in unknown languages and special knowledge will become useless. **But love will last forever!**

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**Life is simple when we decide to live for love alone.**

Love God. Love people. That's it.

Nothing else matters for eternity.

What have you lived life for that has made things complicated? Are you ready to turn away from all of that to fall into the love of God alone?