



May 17, 2020 | Believe (Part 3): Follow Jesus | Reggie Roberson

**WARM UP QUESTION:** Which characteristics in a person encourage you to follow them?

**READ:** John 1:35-51

**FOCUS:** Follow Jesus.

**OBSERVE:**

**Why is Jesus worthy of being followed?**

- **He is the Lamb.** (John 1:35-36)  
The Jews sacrificed lambs to pay for their sins. We can follow Jesus because He puts our interests above His own, as evidenced by His death on the cross to completely pay for our sins.
- **He is the Ladder.** (John 1:51)  
We can follow Jesus because He is the only ladder into God's presence and into Heaven. The distance you feel from God will be filled when you choose to follow Jesus.
- **He is the Leader.** (John 1:51)  
Jesus calls Himself the Son of Man, a title that indicates He is God's chosen one. We can follow Jesus because He is the perfect leader, chosen by God himself, to lead with all power.

**What does following Jesus involve?**

- **Redirecting** (John 1:35-37)  
John was a good man, and his disciples were right to follow him. However, at the appropriate time, his disciples were redirected to follow Jesus instead. Following Jesus will redirect us from anything that keeps us from experiencing God Himself.
- **Relationship** (John 1:38-39)  
Relationship with God and others is essential to following Jesus. When the two disciples asked where Jesus was staying, Jesus invited them to join Him and have a relationship with Him. When Andrew and Phillip met Jesus, they invited Simon and Nathanael to meet Jesus too.
- **Redefining** (John 1:42)  
When Jesus met Simon, He gave him a new name, a prophetic name that redefined His purpose in life.

**REFLECT:**

- Which aspect of following Jesus—*redirecting, relationship, or redefining*—is hardest for you?
- How does today's Scripture help you better understand how to develop that aspect of following Jesus?

**TAKE ACTION:**

Jesus is worthy of being followed. If you have not followed Him yet, choosing to do so can fill any emptiness in your life. If you are a follower, reassess what this involves. Ensure that you are focused on Him, developing a deeper relationship with Him and living out His purpose for your life.

**PRAY:**

*Father, You are worthy of all that I am. Give me grace and strength to follow You where You lead me. Thank You for saving me from my sins and giving me purpose and direction in my life. Help me to heed Your leadership so that I can be redirected away from anything that distracts me from You to develop my relationship with You and others and understand the purpose You have for me. In Jesus' name, amen.*

