BEYOND SUNDAY: February 14, 2021



Series Page: <u>wearepcc.com/follow</u> Message: Follow

Jesus promised to build his church. His mandate to us, as his followers, is to make disciples. Every human being on the Peninsula is a disciple of someone or some ideology. Ask yourself, "Whose disciple will I be?" Regardless of what you believe. Regardless of how you behave. Jesus invites you to... follow him.

This two-week mini-series is designed to help you reflect on where you are on your journey with Jesus. We will focus on what it means to passionately follow Christ in light of <u>PCC's mission, G4 Pathway, and values</u>.

#1

When we share the gospel, people will often ask tough questions about our faith. Whether they be a smoke screen or genuine questions, they can be hard to field. What are some hard questions about the Gospel that have either come up or that you dread will come up? (We are not answering the questions now, just asking them.)

#2

According to this week's speaker, Lead Pastor Gary Gaddini, **follow** means to journey with and assist the master. Furthermore, when Jesus called people to follow Him, He wasn't just talking to "good people only" about agreeing with His teaching or engaging in religious behavior. He was inviting the broken to come close to be made new, embrace His heart for all people and to BLESS people--to that end we are joining Jesus in restoring culture and creation. Because we have been restored, we must be the radiant church restoring others back to God. Is that responsibility for all followers, or perhaps only for those with the gift of evangelism? See <u>Acts 13:47</u> and <u>Matthew</u> <u>28:18-20</u>. How does the end of verse 20 give you confidence?

#3

See <u>Luke 6:46</u>. If we identify with Jesus as a follower, there should be a distinction in the way we live. What does a follower of Jesus look like to you? You can draw on your insights from past series (Radiant, The Essentials) or the <u>G4 Pathway</u> (Gather, Grow, Give and Go).

#4

<u>Matthew 9:9</u> gives an account of Jesus' call to Matthew the tax collector and how he followed. What did Jesus say and how did Matthew respond? Think back to your call to follow Jesus. How did you respond? Did you wrestle

with God? Did you respond immediately like Matthew? The book of Luke adds that Matthew left everything to follow Jesus. Was there something that was hard for you to leave behind as you followed Jesus? Are you still holding onto something?

#5

In <u>Matthew 9:9-13</u> Jesus attends a dinner party at Matthew's house. What do you notice about the attendees? According to Pastor Gary the attendees were a part of Matthew's BLESS list. View <u>BLESS</u> video. Because we have been blessed, now we are called to reach out and allow God to bless others through us. The 5 principles of BLESS are:

Begin with Prayer Listen with Care Eat Together Serve in Love Share your Story

Which of these is hardest for you? Which is easiest for you? If you were going to have a party with Jesus there, who are the top five people you'd invite so they could meet Him? Put their names on your <u>virtual BLESS Card</u>.

#6

In these same verses we see the reaction from the Pharisees at the party. Sadly, not everyone reacts to Jesus in a positive way. Opening ourselves up spiritually to others can be scary. Our views can often be regarded as narrow-minded or exclusive. Sharing our story takes both heart and guts, a heart for all people and guts to take risks for Jesus. What prevents you from taking a risk for Jesus? See <u>Acts 1:8</u>. How does this verse give you confidence? As encouraged by Pastor Gary, our job is to be available to BLESS, God will do the heavy lifting. How have you seen God do the heavy lifting or not?

Other Resources

- 1. Fill out your <u>BLESS card and view resources</u>
- 2. Watch Video: PCC G4 Pathway
- 3. Engage in a <u>Growth Group</u>