

# beyond sunday

not a fan — 9.21.25

## Fan or Follower (DTR) — Mark Turnney

- 1. Icebreaker – Defining the Relationship (DTR).** We started the series with the idea of a “DTR” talk. In dating, it’s that moment when you decide what the relationship really is. Can you share a funny or awkward DTR story you’ve experienced (dating, friendship, even work)?
- 2. Scripture – Luke 9:23.** Read Luke 9:23 together. Why do you think Jesus used such strong language about denying ourselves and taking up our cross daily? How does this connect to the idea of defining our relationship with Him?

**Leader’s Note:** *In the sermon, Pastor Mark made a distinction: **a fan is an enthusiastic admirer, but a follower is someone who makes a daily, costly commitment to obey Jesus.** Keep this difference in mind as you discuss the three questions below.*

### **Question 1:** *Why are you here?*

- 3. Scripture – John 6:26–69.** Read this passage. Why did many people stop following Jesus? What were they hoping to get from Him?

- 4. Reflection.** Be honest: when you think about your own life, what first brought you to church or faith? Has that reason changed over time? Are there ways you've slipped into being a "fan" instead of a follower?

### **Question 2:** *Are You All In?*

- 5. Scripture – Mark 10:17–22.** Why did the rich young ruler walk away from Jesus? What "one thing" do you think keeps people today from going all in with Christ?
- 6. Application.** Where in your own life are you tempted to practice "selective commitment"—areas where it's easier to admire Jesus than to obey Him fully? How might Jesus be inviting you to deeper trust and obedience?

### **Question 3:** *Have You Defined the Relationship?*

- 7. Personal.** Pastor Mark shared that he grew up with faith habits from his parents but realized at 16 he had never truly made faith his own. Have you ever had a moment like that? When did your faith become personal to you?
- 8. Scripture – Philippians 3:7–8.** Paul says he considers everything a loss compared to the surpassing worth of knowing Christ. What do you think it means to "gain Christ"? How might that truth give courage to define the relationship as a follower, not just a fan?