

# **FOLLOW ME**

**BY JEREMY TREAT**

*FOLLOW ME: A SIMPLE GUIDE TO FOLLOWING JESUS*

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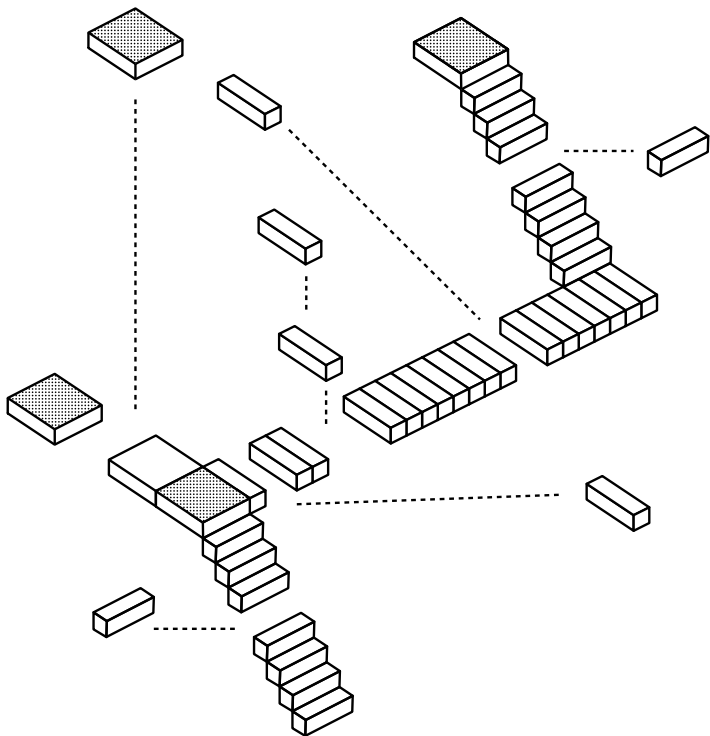
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## FOLLOW ME



# The Gospel is Beautiful

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# What It Means To Be a Christian

...

**Jesus is not looking for fans.  
He's looking for followers.**

...

**W**hat does it mean to be a Christian? Does it mean to believe in God? To be a good person? To attend church, or at least have a grandma who did? To use replacement swear words like “gosh darn it” or “son of a biscuit”?

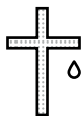
A Christian could do all of these, but none of them define what a Christian *is*. If we want to know what a Christian is, we should look to Christ himself. How did *he* define a Christian? Jesus' call wasn't to “say the sinner's prayer,” “get religion,” or “invite him into your heart.” This Jewish

carpenter's call was, and still is, "Follow me" (*Matthew 4:19*). The goal is not merely to "make a decision for Christ" but to be a disciple of Christ. Jesus is not looking for fans; he's looking for followers.

**THE GOSPEL  
PROPELS US  
INTO A LIFE OF  
FOLLOWING  
JESUS.**

So what does it mean to be a Christian? It begins not with what you have to do for God, but with what God has done for you in Christ. The Bible calls this *gospel* ("good news"). Good *news*, not good advice. It's not about how you can clean up your act and build your spiritual resume to win God's approval. The gospel is a declaration of grace. And grace is free, but it's not cheap; it cost Jesus his life. Through Jesus' perfect life, sacrificial death, and victorious resurrection we can be reconciled to God and made new. That's truly good news!

Our response to the gospel is to turn from our sin, trust in our savior, and follow him in all of life. The Christian



**THE GOSPEL**

"...That Christ died for our sins in accordance with the Scriptures, that he was buried, that he was raised on the third day in accordance with the Scriptures..."

(*1 Corinthians 15:3-4*)



life does not move beyond the gospel, but goes deeper and deeper into its riches, applying the finished work of Christ to every aspect of life: relationships, work, hobbies, ethics, emotions, and so on. The gospel propels us into a life of following Jesus.

**A CHRISTIAN IS SOMEONE WHO RECEIVES THE GOSPEL AND RESPONDS BY FOLLOWING JESUS.**

So again, what does it mean to be a Christian?

A Christian is someone who receives the gospel and responds by following Jesus.

