

# What a Life Close to Christ Really Looks Like

Week of February 17, 2019

## EXTRAORDINARY

THE SURPRISING LIFE OF GOD'S SON ON EARTH

These Digging Deeper questions can be used the week following the Sunday message. You can use these questions for personal growth and development, or as a guide for your family or Connect Group discussions.

### Message Recap:

#### Read Mark 3:20-35

It is easy to learn something, but it's what we do with that knowledge that matters. We are either in God's "doing zone" or our own. We find Jesus when we go to the Scriptures and listen to the message. When you do when you find Jesus will change your life. Through faith you can be lead to do God's will instead of your own. We must overcome the barriers that keep us from doing God's will. We need to be ready to go and do. *We all have a part to play.* Why does it matter? Because only God can transform the ugly of this world to the good. When we choose to do God's will, seeking him in the "small stuff," we reveal that Jesus has become the most important part of life. We must allow our broken to be loved into the kind of brokenness that responds to God by doing his will. This is the only way we will have the kind of life that God desires us to live.

### Pray

Dear God, open our hearts and our minds to be willing to love, listen and follow your will and not our own. Help us to trust that you have prepared us for whatever you have laid or will lay before us. Remind us that it is your will to be done not our own. Amen

### Getting Started

- Over the years we have been feed the phrase "Just Do It" through a well established Nike ad campaign. What does it mean to you when you hear this phrase and why?
- Tell about a time you went "off-road" - by car, by foot, or in ministry. What was it like? Would you do it again?

### Digging Deeper

1. Why do you think it is easy to gather information or obtain knowledge, but difficult to put it into action?
2. There are two "will zones": God's will and our will. Which one are you in and how do you know?
3. A 4x4 church gets off of the road and into the mud. What does this statement mean to you? Explain.
4. What are two key components to finding Jesus and knowing God's will? How does the scripture and listening to it support finding God's will?
5. Read Matt 25:35-45 What does this passage say to you when it comes to doing, going, and taking action?
6. One barrier from doing God's will is being lost and not knowing God. Another barrier is underestimating the cost of the cross. What is a barrier for you and what can you do to remove that barrier?
7. Discuss this statement: If we don't do the will of God, the work just doesn't get done. Agree? Why or why not?
8. Like Jesus in Mark 3:31-35, we will always have different voices that will be calling to us. Compare and contrast God's voice to the other voices. Which one is loudest to you?

### Living Jesus

We read in Matthew 26:39,42 that Jesus, with great apprehension, clearly turned his will over to his Father. His obedience changed everything. What is it for you that is difficult for you to turn over to God? What is holding you back from taking a radical risk in giving in to the will of God? Take steps this week to take action. Open up your brokenness. Give God your decision to, in faith, follow him only.

### What's Your Story?

What experience have you had with following the will of God even though you were greatly apprehensive in doing so? What did you do and what was the outcome?

Share how God is working in your life at [SevernRunner.info/stories](http://SevernRunner.info/stories).