



Becoming a Disciple Who Refuses to Quit

Week of February 24, 2019

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 4:1-20

A life following Jesus is a life of daily deciding that you want to follow Jesus. That is the life a disciple. So many people quit on God; they make a step toward Jesus, but then they turn away. A disciple says, "I'm not going to quit on God." There will always be a part of you that is a rebel, trying to lure you away from following God; but there will also be a part of you that longs for Jesus. Listen to that part; the one that longs for Jesus. When you start, don't stop. Don't be stopped by fear, or feelings. You aren't called to be a fan of Jesus or a member of a certain church; Jesus calls you to actively follow him. To be a disciple. To continue in relationship believing that Jesus is there, and reachable, and approachable. Being a disciple means you are learning to follow Jesus; that you let him have your life; that you stop trying to do it on your own and instead seek to do everything Jesus' way. This is how you live Jesus - knowing that there is nothing better in life than to be loved by God.

Pray

Father, I want to live a life that is fruitful for you and full of the joy and love that only you can give. Help me choose you every day. Put a desire for your Word into my heart, and let me hear your voice directing me in the way I should go.

Getting Started

- Have you ever wanted to quit something, but you knew it was something you should keep doing? Share what happened.
- What are the things that make people want to quit on Jesus? Have you ever felt that way?

Digging Deeper

1. Discuss this statement: "In life, if you aren't thinking about Jesus a lot, then you aren't following Jesus." Agree or disagree? Why?
2. A disciple is someone who allows Jesus control over their life. What does that "transfer of ownership" look like when you allow Jesus to own your life? Is it a one-time or a daily transaction? Why does it matter?
3. The biblical standards for discipleship include the following. Discuss what these statements look like in the life a believer:
 - A. Being proactive instead of passive
 - B. Being disciplined instead of undisciplined
 - C. Living wholistically instead of compartmentalized
 - D. Living counter-culturally instead of conforming
 - E. Being a bold instead of an inhibited witness
4. Read Luke 9:62. What does that verse mean to you? What does it have to do with quitting on Jesus?
5. What will you do this week to think and act more like a disciple?

Living Jesus

The greatest lie we believe is that there is something better in life than being loved by God. Its never too late to turn to (or turn back to) God. Any excuse you have that keeps you from God is not a reason to quit on him; he has already taken it all on through Jesus and offers you a life in his eternal love as an exchange. Time and again God has graciously revealed himself to us, but we don't listen. We put our fingers in our ears and claim we can't hear him. But if we are willing to believe what we already know, we will live in the love of Jesus with a heart full of joy, eager to serve him. The life of a disciple is a great life of adventure, transformation, and mission. When you follow him, your life will bear fruit with purpose and joy. Choose a life in Jesus today.

What's Your Story?

Even if you've quit on God, he has not quit on you. He's still there. Make the turn towards a life with him...for the first time or once again. Your new life can begin today.

Share how God is working in your life at SevernRunner.info/stories.