

# JANUARY MESSAGES

## **Follow**

Pastor Chris Meek

How would you answer the question “Becoming a Christian is \_\_\_\_\_?” The answer to that question will surprise you. Becoming a Christian is easy. To become a Christian you just have to believe. Jesus never asked us to become Christians; He asks us to ‘follow’ Him.

“Jesus called out to them, “Come, follow me” (Matthew 4:19).

- 1. How would you have answered the question ‘Becoming a Christian is \_\_\_\_\_ ?**
- 2. What does it mean to follow someone?**

Jesus came not only to reconcile us to God. He came to establish a new way of living; to bring us into kingdom living and to turn our world upside down. Jesus introduced this new way of living in His sermon on the mount (Matthew 5-7).

- 3. Read Matthew 5. Which of these teachings would you say are ‘world turning’?**

Jesus’ intent was not that the people merely believe what He taught, but that they would live it out. Jesus immediately modeled His teachings as he ministered to a leprous man (read Matthew 8:1-3) then to a centurion (read Matthew 8:5-13).

**4. Why was it important for Jesus to model what He taught?**

**5. Is it easier to follow what Jesus taught or what He modeled?**

**6. Why would the people have a hard time with Jesus ministering to the leprous man and the centurion?**

**7. Do you have difficulty reaching out to certain types of people?**

If we end our commitment to Christ at belief, we will not be experiencing and modeling the life that Jesus came to bring us. Those who live differently and impact their world are those who follow Jesus; those who act upon their belief. It is easy to be a Christian but hard to be a true follower of Jesus.

**8. Why is it harder to follow than merely believe?**

**9. What can you do to better follow Jesus? Be specific.**