

Who Do You Follow?



FOLLOW AND INFLUENCE

True influence drives action not just awareness.

Leaders: Take your group through each section: Pray, Reflect, and Reach. Keep in mind the time allowances. In the Reflect section, feel free to focus on several of these questions instead of all as time allows.

I was talking with one of our team members a few weeks back. He was telling me about different influencers that he follows on social media and how their content has impacted him. It got me thinking about the concept of following. Since the advent of social media “follow” is a much-used word in pop culture. But in some ways, I think it’s had a reductionist effect on the Biblical concept of following.

What I mean is that to follow someone in a social media sense is to expose yourself to their influence on certain subjects when it’s convenient. Following in that sense is not the same as in the Biblical sense.

When Jesus invited His disciples to follow Him, it meant that they would learn His teachings and follow His lifestyle. It’s not that they would just consider His influence in a category pertaining to their life, here and there. But His influence would consume their lives and not as a matter of convenience but as a command.

To follow Jesus means you’re an “100 percenter”. By that I mean, you’re all in. The amazing thing is this. As you follow Him in that way, He makes you and influencer, or as He said, a fisher of the souls of men and women.



WATCH

Play the video prepared for this lesson by Pastor Derek Neider. Video sessions are available for download at www.cclasvegas.org/GROUPS



PRAY (10 min)

As a Home Group, take a moment and share how Christ has influenced your life.



REFLECT (25 min)

As you’ve had the opportunity to reflect on what God has spoken to you through the lesson this week, consider these questions as a group and discuss them together.

1. In the study, Pastor Derek said that following, “Jesus means 3 things: you leave, you make, and you measure.

In the context of following Christ, what does each of those mean? Using those three categories describe how you follow Jesus.

“Jesus Christ is not just an influence in your life He is the influence in your life.”

DEREK NEIDER

2. With all the information that barrages you daily, how have you been able to filter that information through the words of Jesus?

How have you managed to keep Christ at the center of your life and the priority of all that you do? In what ways could you grow in this?

“Christians don’t bury their heads in the sand, they choose to prioritize their lives around the person and the words of Christ.” DEREK NEIDER

3. Christians, by nature and calling, are meant to be influencers.

Describe how your life is an influence for Jesus? What relationships, in particular, has God brought into your life so that you can lead people to Jesus? Pray daily for those people.

“Young man, set yourself on fire and people will come and watch you burn”

CH SPURGEON

4. Pastor Derek mentioned a 5-step strategy to being an effective influencer: live the gospel, love people, pray specifically, share Christ, and invite to decide. On a scale of 1-5 (5 being excellent) rate yourself in each step. How can you improve your influence?

“You are the salt of the earth; but if the salt loses its flavor, how shall it be seasoned? It is then good for nothing but to be thrown out and trampled underfoot by men. ‘You are the light of the world. A city that is set on a hill cannot be hidden. Nor do they light a lamp and put it under a basket, but on a lampstand, and it gives light to all who are in the house. Let your light so shine before men, that they may see your good works and glorify your Father in heaven.’”

MATTHEW 5:13-16



REACH

Considering what God revealed to you this week, simplify your week around these two principles, follow and influence. Be an instrument for the gospel and expect God to do something great!

Next week we will be anxiously waiting to hear about how God used you to influence someone for Christ.