

# Follow Me!

*(Lordship of Christ)*



**Introduction:** Matthew 9:9 And as Jesus passed forth from thence, he saw a man, named Matthew, sitting at the receipt of custom: and he said unto him, **Follow** me. And he arose, and followed him.

The idea today of following Jesus is summed up in the concept of the Lordship of Christ.

## **The concept of Lord**

Phil. 2 God has given him the name over every name: Lord.

What does that word “Lord” mean?

“Lord” does not mean great guy, exalted one, admirable fellow.

It means boss, chief, king, supervisor, leader, master, overlord, governor, monarch, emperor, head of state, Kaiser, superior, employer.

It means he says, I do. He wants it, I go get it. He sends I go. He says stop and I stop. He is my commanding officer.

Luke 6:46 "And why do you call Me, 'Lord, Lord,' and do not do what I say?"

So what's the problem? We were born rebels. We hate for any other person to tell us what to do. But this is probably the most important truth in the Christian life. Jesus died to bring this about.

Romans 14:8-9 (NKJV): “For to this end Christ died, and rose and lived again, that he might be Lord of both the dead and the living.”

Now let's look at how this truth plays out in the life of a person. There are several aspects.

### **1. Conversion** Receive the Savior

Example: **Matthew** (Matt. 9:9)

Say no to **religion**.

### **2. Capitulation** Recognize the Sovereign

Example: **Paul** (Acts. 9:7-10)

“...and I fell to the ground and heard a voice saying to me, 'Saul, Saul, why are you persecuting Me?'

8 "And I answered, '**Who art Thou, Lord?**' And He said to me, 'I am Jesus the Nazarene, whom you are persecuting.'

9 "And those who were with me beheld the light, to be sure, but did not understand the voice of the One who was speaking to me.

10 "And I said, '**What shall I do, Lord?**' And the Lord said to me, 'Arise and go on into Damascus; and there you will be told of all that has been appointed for you to do.'

You can not “make Him Lord”. God has already done that. But you can and should surrender to His lordship in your life. Your choice is to either be a loyal subject or a traitor and rebel.

Say no to **rebellion**.

Two wrong assumptions:

1. If it’s something I like, it’s probably God’s will. Not necessarily...
2. If I hate it, it’s probably God’s will.

The first are narcissists, the second are masochists. But Jesus is neither our butler nor our bully. He loves you and this is a benevolent dictator.

Have you had a coronation service in your life to crown Him king? Not my will, but Thine be done.

### **3. Cleansing** Release the Sacrifice

Example: **Abraham** (Genesis 22:1-14)

Say no to **rivals**.

What is competing with your love for Christ? Money, TV, someone, some pastime, etc.?

Your Christian life is shriveled and pitiful. God may have already shown you what the problem is. Are you ready to deal with it?

In my life: dating, France/Argentina

### **4. Culmination** Respond to the Scourge

Example: **Peter** (John 21:18-22)

18 "Truly, truly, I say to you, when you were younger, you used to gird yourself, and walk wherever you wished; but when you grow old, you will stretch out your hands, and someone else will gird you, and bring you where you do not wish to go."

19 Now this He said, signifying by **what kind of death he would glorify God**. And when He had spoken this, He said to him, "Follow Me!"

20 Peter, turning around, saw the disciple whom Jesus loved following *them*; the one who also had leaned back on His breast at the supper, and said, "Lord, who is the one who betrays You?"

21 Peter therefore seeing him said to Jesus, "Lord, and what about this man?"

22 Jesus said to him, "If I want him to remain until I come, what *is that* to you? **You follow Me!**"

Say no to **resentment**.

In my life: Merlo

I’m His penny; He can spend me any way He wants.

Where are you telling God “NO” ?

Dr. Scroggie was speaking at the Keswick Convention in England. Young woman: “I want Jesus to be Lord of my life, but I am afraid God will send me overseas as a missionary, and I don’t want to go.”

Acts 10:14 But Peter said, “**Not so, Lord**; for I have never eaten anything that is common or unclean.”

“I want you to cross out the two words ‘not so’ and leave the word ‘Lord’; or else cross out the word ‘Lord’ and leave ‘not so’.”

Jesus looks straight at you today and says to you, FOLLOW ME!

What are you going to do? And be assured that it will take very specific forms. It is not a general vague idea or concept.

You are considering



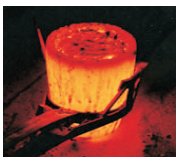

- dating s.o.
- divorcing
- stealing
- cheating
- not tithing

You're

- not willing to get up early to meet with God
- not reading the Bible
- almost never praying
- watching way too much TV and movies
- eating too much
- putting your effort into pleasing others and pampering yourself
- dead set against going on a missions trip
- hanging on to all your money so you won't have to trust God

You were made to follow Him. This is not artificial or contrived. The only thing it bumps into and grates on is your sinful rebelliousness. Choose this day whom you will serve.

## Aspects of the Lordship of Christ

<b>Conversion</b>	<b>Capitulation</b>	<b>Cleansing</b>	<b>Culmination</b>
CRADLE 	CROWN 	CRUCIBLE 	CAPSTONE 
Receive the <b>Savior</b>	Recognize the <b>Sovereign</b>	Release the <b>Sacrifice</b>	Respond to the <b>Scourge</b>
<b>Matthew</b> Matthew 9:9	<b>Paul</b> Acts 22:7-10	<b>Abraham</b> Genesis 22:1-14	<b>Peter</b> John 21:18-22
<b>Say “no” to</b>			
<b>Religion</b>	<b>Rebellion</b>	<b>Rivals</b>	<b>Resentment</b>
<b>“Your” decision</b>			<b>His decision</b>