

“Jesus is the Way, the Truth, and the Life” Series
If You Believe It, Then Live It
Luke 9:57-62

February 14, 2010

Dr. Steve Horn

Introduction: We have been examining the truth of Jesus’ claim that He is the “way, the truth, and the life.” As Christians, we believe that this claim is true. The question is whether we live as though we **really** believe. Luke records Jesus’ encounter with three men who came face-to-face with making a decision concerning Jesus. We must come face-to-face with our own decision about the truth of Jesus Christ.

Text: ⁵⁷ As they were traveling on the road someone said to Him, "I will follow You wherever You go!"

⁵⁸ Jesus told him, "Foxes have dens, and birds of the sky have nests, but the Son of Man has no place to lay His head." ⁵⁹ Then He said to another, "Follow Me."

"Lord," he said, "first let me go bury my father."

⁶⁰ But He told him, "Let the dead bury their own dead, but you go and spread the news of the kingdom of God."

⁶¹ Another also said, "I will follow You, Lord, but first let me go and say good-bye to those at my house."

⁶² But Jesus said to him, "No one who puts his hand to the plow and looks back is fit for the kingdom of God."

God demands a Decisive Commitment.

There comes a point of decision.

Biblical History that God Demands a Choice:

- Adam and Eve ~ Genesis 2:15-17. God gave them a rule to follow and they had to decide whether they would follow.
- Moses’ Sermon to Israel ~ Deuteronomy 30:15ff. God told them that He was putting before them life and death. They had to choose life.
- Joshua’s Sermon to Israel ~ Joshua 24:14-15. “Choose you this day the one you will worship.”
- Jesus’ Question to Peter ~ Matthew 16:15. “Who do you say that I am?”
- The Choice of Every Person ~ Romans 10:13. “For everyone who calls on the name of the LORD will be saved.”

- Jesus' Invitation ~ Revelation 3:20. "Listen! I stand at the door and knock. If anyone hears My voice and opens the door, I will come in to him and have dinner with him, and he with Me." Notice the invitation to "open." There is choice. There has always been choice.

How Do I make a Decisive Choice for Jesus?

- Consider the Choices.
- Consider the Costs.
- Consider the Consequences.

God demands a Drastic Commitment.

If we are going to choose Christ, we must choose Him on His terms.

The common denominator in each of the three responses to Jesus is that no excuse, no matter how good it is, is good enough.

The New Testament does not speak of differing levels of devotion to Jesus. There may be differing levels of maturity, but there can only be one level of devotion.

Characteristics of Authentic Discipleship:

- Obey Him!
- Surrender to Him!

"We have seen subnormal Christianity so long, when we see normal Christianity we think it is abnormal."