

Going All In: Embracing the Call to Follow Jesus

The resurrection of Jesus is the cornerstone of our faith. It assures us that death has been defeated, and that new life is possible. During the 40 days after His resurrection, Jesus appeared to His disciples multiple times, reinforcing their faith and preparing them for the mission ahead. He promised them the Holy Spirit, who would empower them to be His witnesses to the ends of the earth.

The disciples most of had many questions they were asking Jesus during their post resurrection encounters with Him. But their primary question would have come down to something like this: *now what, Lord? Now how are we going to do life and follow You?*

Our Easter celebrations have come and gone, and I would submit to you that there isn't a more apt question to consider for our own lives: what now, Lord? Or put another way, what does it truly mean to follow the resurrected Savior?

The Call to Follow

Jesus' life-changing invitation to His first disciples was, "follow me." These two simple words carry profound implications for our lives. Following Jesus is *not* just about believing some things about Him; and it's *not* just about knowing what's true. It's about "going all in" and living out our faith in tangible ways. It's about actively engaging in His mission alongside Him. It's about going beyond ourselves and having a part in inviting and equipping people to become fully alive in Christ.

The Great Commission: Our Charge

In Matthew 28, we find Jesus, before He ascends to heaven, giving His disciples a final charge, known as the Great Commission. He said, *"All authority in heaven and on earth has been given to me. Therefore, go and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, and teaching them to obey everything I have commanded you. And surely I am with you always, to the very end of the age."*

This commission is not just for the original disciples; it's for us today. We are called to go into our world, share the good news of Jesus, and invite others to experience the transformative power of His love. It's about drawing people to faith, building them up in that faith, and equipping them to make disciples, who will make disciples, who will make disciples...

Our Role in God's Plan

As followers of Christ, we are part of a grand narrative that spans generations. We are called to be disciple-makers, to share our stories of how Jesus intersected our lives, and to invite others into this journey of faith.

A Call to Action

So, what does it mean to go all in for Jesus? It means embracing the kingdom values, purposes, and priorities that Jesus taught and lived out. It means prioritizing our relationship with Him and being an active part of His church. It means rolling up our sleeves, investing our time, talents, treasures, and going all in for Jesus.

Today, I invite you to take the next step in your faith journey. Consider how you can actively participate in our church's mission. Whether it's joining a Life Group, serving in a ministry, or reaching out to those in need. There are countless ways to be involved. Let's commit to being disciple-makers who expand the kingdom of God here in this community, one heart at a time.

Together, we can make a difference and fulfill the mission He has entrusted to us. Are you ready to take the next step? To discuss what your step might look like, reach out to Lori at connect@cornerstonechurchgraston.org