

**Introduction: Everyone “follows” something or someone**

- Some follow in the footsteps of their family.
- Some follow a philosophy about life.
- Some follow a religious leader or spiritual path.
- Some follow their own intuition.
- Some follow whatever is popular.
- Some follow a formula for success.

**Three important questions:**

1. Who, or what, do you \_\_\_\_\_ you follow?
2. Who, or what, does your time, money, and energy \_\_\_\_\_ you follow?
3. Why would anyone follow Jesus Christ?

**Hearing God's voice from John Chapter 8...**

**The Context: When, where, and why – does this intensified conflict occur?**

**The Content: Jesus challenges the status quo.**

- Jesus' declaration and promise John 8:12
  
- Pharisees challenge Jesus' credibility John 8:13-20
  
- Jesus warns of the consequences of unbelief: John 8:21-30
  - You'll \_\_\_\_\_ in your sin.
  - You'll only know who I am \_\_\_\_\_ the cross.
  - \_\_\_\_\_ put their faith in Him.
  
- Jesus defines the "acid test" of true discipleship: John 8:31-53
  1. If you obey My Word... the result is you will have \_\_\_\_\_.
  2. If you love Me... the result is you will \_\_\_\_\_ from God.
  3. If you keep My Word... the result is you will \_\_\_\_\_.

**The Climax: Jesus is the great "I AM."**

John 8:54-59

- Pharisees attempt to stone Him.

**Why should anyone follow Jesus?**

1. He's the \_\_\_\_\_ of the world.
2. You'll \_\_\_\_\_ in your sins.
3. He's \_\_\_\_\_ with the Father.
4. The Father testifies \_\_\_\_\_ Him.
5. He \_\_\_\_\_ sinned.
6. He'll be the \_\_\_\_\_.
7. He's one with \_\_\_\_\_.

1. **A Promise to claim:**

*...Whoever follows Me will never walk in darkness, but will have the light of life.*

Jesus - John 8:12 (NIV)

- What does it mean to walk in the light?
- How do you walk in the light?
- What are the results?

2. **A Command to obey:**

*...If you hold to My teaching, you are really My disciples. Then you will know the truth, and the truth will set you free.*

Jesus - John 8:31-32 (NIV)

- What does it mean to “hold to Jesus’ teaching”?
- Why is this the “real test” of discipleship?
- What is the result?

3. **An Example to follow:**

*...“If you were Abraham’s children,” said Jesus, “you would do the things Abraham did.”*

Jesus - John 8:39 (NIV)

- What did Abraham do?
- What would it look like, in your life, to really trust God?

Romans 4:20-21  
Hebrews 11:8-10

**Assignment: Read John Chapter 9**

*Jesus said, "If you were blind, you would not be guilty of sin; but now that you claim you can see, your guilt remains.*

John 9:41 (NIV)

**Discussion Questions:**

1. What was Jesus claiming when He said He was the light of the world?  
(Read John 1:1-5 and discuss)
2. What is the difference between someone who "professes to believe in Jesus" and a real disciple (follower), according to Jesus? (see John 8:31-32)
3. What specific truth or concept did the Holy Spirit use to speak to your life from this passage?
4. How will you respond to the truth? Who can you share that with? Who might need your help or encouragement?