



January 27 & 28, 2017
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Jesus Calls for Commitment

"For whoever would save his life will lose it, but whoever loses his life for my sake will save it." Luke 9:24

The "Hard" Sayings of Jesus

I. **Why** They Followed Jesus

When the people saw the sign that he had done, they said, "This is indeed the Prophet who is to come into the world!" John 6:14

They followed for the:

A. **Freedom**

Perceiving then that they were about to come and take him by force to make him king, Jesus withdrew again to the mountain by himself. John 6:15

B. **Food**

Jesus answered them, "Truly, truly, I say to you, you are seeking me, not because you saw signs, but because you ate your fill of the loaves." John 6:26

Three "selfish" motives for following:

A. **Materialism**

"Do not work for the food that perishes, but for the food that endures to eternal life, which the Son of Man will give to you. For on him God the Father has set his seal." John 6:27

"What are you going to **do for me**?"

B. **Legalism**

Then they said to him, "What must we do, to be doing the works of God?" John 6:28

"What do I have **to do for you**?"

C. **Sensationalism**

So they said to him, "Then what sign do you do, that we may see and believe you? What work do you perform?" John 6:30

"What have you done **for me lately**?"

II. **What to Expect** from Following Jesus

"Whoever feeds on my flesh and drinks my blood has eternal life, and I will raise him up on the last day." . . . When many of his disciples heard it, they said, "This is a hard saying; who can listen to it?" . . . After this many of his disciples turned back and no longer walked with him. John 6:54, 60, 66

A life of **total surrender**.

A. We will be **dependent**.

"Acquire no gold or silver or copper for your belts, no bag for your journey, or two tunics or sandals or a staff, for the laborer deserves his food." Matthew 10:9-10

B. We will be **hated**.

"and you will be hated by all for my name's sake. But the one who endures to the end will be saved." Matthew 10:22

"Do not think that I have come to bring peace to the earth. I have not come to bring peace, but a sword." Matthew 10:34

C. We will be **humbled**.

"And whoever does not take his cross and follow me is not worthy of me. Whoever finds his life will lose it, and whoever loses his life for my sake will find it." Matthew 10:38-39