

How did Jesus describe how we must live our life to follow Him as Lord?

Matthew 16:24-25: “If anyone desires to come after Me, let him deny himself, and take up his cross, and follow Me. For whoever desires to save his life will lose it, but whoever loses his life for My sake will find it.”

John 13:34-35: “A new commandment I give to you, that you love one another; as I have loved you, that you also love one another. By this all will know that you are My disciples, if you have love for one another.”

Why?

John 8:12: “I am the light of the world. He who follows Me shall not walk in darkness, but have the light of life.”

John 8:31-32: “If you abide in My word, you are My disciples indeed. And you shall know the truth, and the truth shall make you free.”

Therefore:

John 14:15: “If you love Me, keep My commandments.”

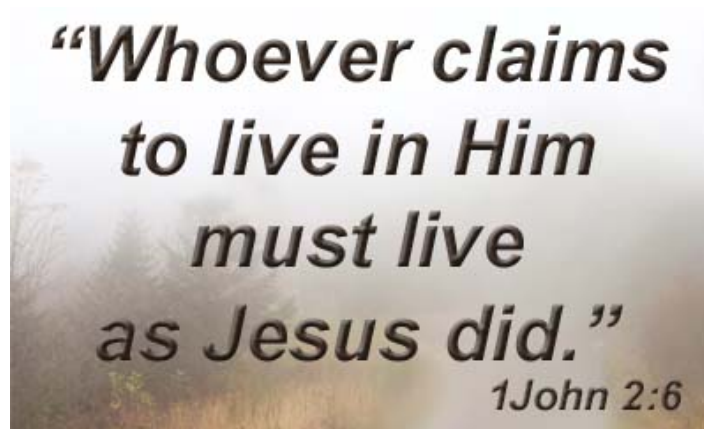
John 15:10: “If you keep My commandments, you will abide in My love, just as I have kept My Father’s commandments and abide in His love.”

John 12:26: “If anyone serves Me, let him follow Me; and where I am, there My servant will be also. If anyone serves Me, him My Father will honor.”

Matthew 10:38: “He who does not take his cross and follow after Me is not worthy of Me.”

How dedicated and focused am I to be an imitator of Christ?

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Why must we, as believers in Christ, follow Him in living just as He lived?

Galatians 2:20: “I have been crucified with Christ; it is no longer I who live, but Christ lives in me; and the *life* which I now live in the flesh I live by faith in the Son of God, who loved me and gave Himself for me.”

Ephesians 2:10: “For we are His workmanship, created in Christ Jesus for good works, which God prepared beforehand that we should walk in them.”

Romans 8:29: “For those whom he foreknew he also predestined to be conformed to the image of his Son, in order that he might be the firstborn among many brothers.”

1Peter 2:21-23: “For to this you were called, because Christ also suffered for us, leaving us an example, that you should follow His steps: “Who committed no sin, nor was deceit found in His mouth”; who, when He was reviled, did not revile in return; when He suffered, He did not threaten, but committed *Himself* to Him who judges righteously.”

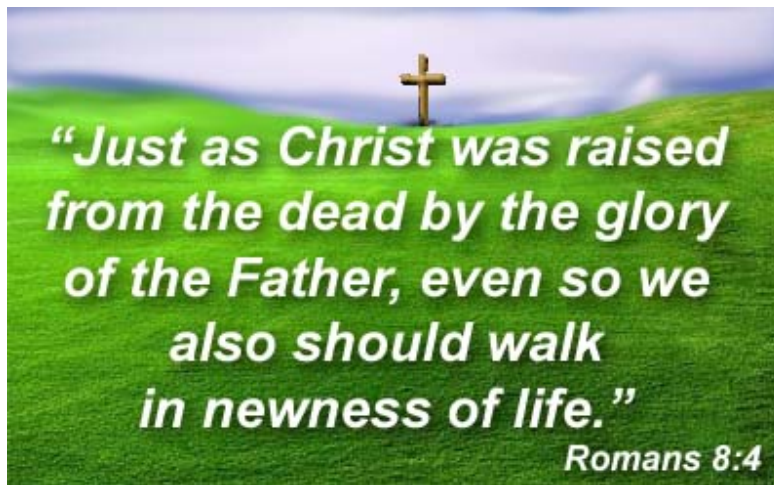
Therefore:

1John 2:6: “He who says he abides in Him ought himself also to walk just as He walked.”

1John 2:28: “Abide in Him, that when He appears, we may have confidence and not be ashamed before Him at His coming.”

Do I understand the importance of walking the path of righteousness in Christ?

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What is the purpose behind becoming imitators of Christ?

Ephesians 4:15: "Speaking the truth in love, we will grow to become in every respect the mature body of Him who is the head, that is, Christ."

Philippians 3:10: "That I may know Him and the power of His resurrection, and the fellowship of His sufferings, being conformed to His death."

Ephesians 4:22-24: "To put off your old self, which belongs to your former manner of life and is corrupt through deceitful desires, and to be renewed in the spirit of your minds, and to put on the new self, created after the likeness of God in true righteousness and holiness."

Ephesians 4:11-13: "That the body of Christ may be built up until we all reach unity in the faith and in the knowledge of the Son of God and become mature, attaining to the whole measure of the fullness of Christ."

Why?

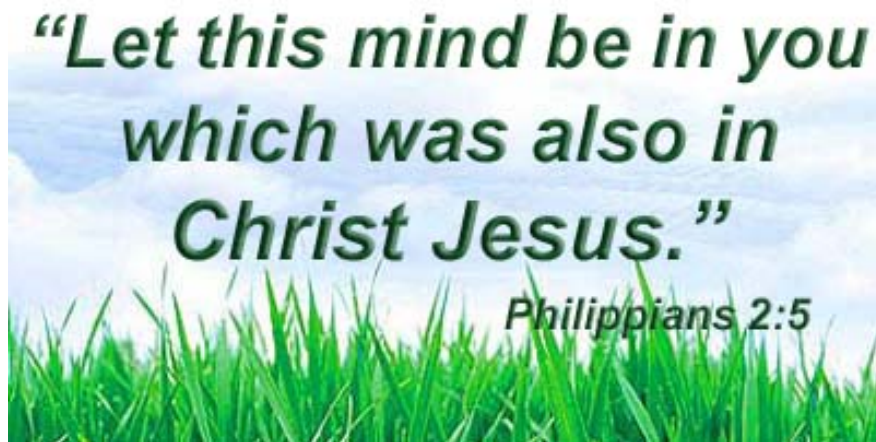
Matthew 16:24: "If anyone desires to come after Me, let him deny himself, and take up his cross, and follow Me."

Therefore:

1Peter 4:1-2: "Since Christ suffered for us in the flesh, arm yourselves also with the same mind, for he who has suffered in the flesh has ceased from sin, that he no longer should live the rest of *his* time in the flesh for the lusts of men, but for the will of God."

Have I purposed my life to follow and imitate Christ?

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How can we become imitators of Christ?

Ephesians 5:1-2: "Be imitators of God, as beloved children. And walk in love, as Christ loved us and gave himself up for us, a fragrant offering and sacrifice to God."

1Peter 3:15: "In your hearts revere Christ as Lord. Always be prepared to give an answer to everyone who asks you to give the reason for the hope that you have. But do this with gentleness and respect."

Colossians 3:2: "Set your mind on things above, not on things on the earth."

Why?

2Timothy 3:1-4: "But know this, that in the last days perilous times will come: For men will be lovers of themselves, lovers of money, boasters, proud, blasphemers, disobedient to parents, unthankful, unholy, unloving, unforgiving, slanderers, without self-control, brutal, despisers of good, traitors, headstrong, haughty, lovers of pleasure rather than lovers of God."

Therefore:

2Timothy 3:5: "From such people turn away!"

Romans 12:2: "Do not be conformed to this world, but be transformed by the renewing of your mind, that you may prove what *is* that good and acceptable and perfect will of God."

Hebrews 10:23: "Let us hold fast the confession of *our* hope without wavering, for He who promised *is* faithful."

Am I committed and steadfast to follow and imitate Christ?

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As believers in Christ, what must we avoid at all cost, so as to live to follow Him as Lord?

Galatians 6:7-8: "Do not be deceived, God is not mocked; for whatever a man sows, that he will also reap. For he who sows to his flesh will of the flesh reap corruption, but he who sows to the Spirit will of the Spirit reap everlasting life."

How is that achieved?

Colossians 3:5: "Put to death your members which are on the earth: fornication, uncleanness, passion, evil desire, and covetousness, which is idolatry."

Why?

Mark 7:20-22: "What comes out of a man, that defiles a man. For from within, out of the heart of men, proceed evil thoughts, adulteries, fornications, murders, thefts, covetousness, wickedness, deceit, lewdness, an evil eye, blasphemy, pride, foolishness."

Therefore:

Galatians 5:16: "I say then: Walk in the Spirit, and you shall not fulfill the lust of the flesh."

Remember also that:

Matthew 7:21: "Not everyone who says to Me, 'Lord, Lord,' shall enter the kingdom of heaven, but he who does the will of My Father in heaven."

Matthew 10:38: "And he who does not take his cross and follow after Me is not worthy of Me."

Do I stand with Christ in faith and live by His Word, or do I pretend to follow Him and continue walking with the world?

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