

FOLLOW ME

A Personal Reformation



Week 3 • Luke 9:51-62

READ

- Over the weeks of our Personal Reformation teaching series we will read accounts from the gospels that confront us with Jesus's life, words, and work.
- Read Luke 9:51-62, praying for help to understand the message. Write down here what you think is the main theme or idea in this passage:

EXAMINE

- Note the immediate context of this passage: Jesus is "on the road" heading somewhere. Where is he going (see 9:51) and why is he going there (see 9:21-22; 43-45)?
- How does Luke describe Jesus's resolve at this stage of his mission (see 9:51)? The book of Isaiah gives prophetic description of Jesus at this stage. Read Isaiah 50:4-7 to see into our Lord's resolve.
- Jesus was rejected by the Samaritans and James and John wanted to call down fire to destroy the Samaritans by Jesus's authority. Yet the Lord doesn't want this. What lesson does he want his disciples to learn that is implicit in his rebuke (9:55)?
- What do you observe about the 3 scenes in verses 57-62? How are they similar? How are they distinct?
- Jesus's demands in these verses are explicit: hard to miss and hard-hitting. Write out here a summary of his 3 responses to would-be followers in a way that will help you reckon with what it means to follow Jesus.

APPLY

- Following Jesus takes grit and determination. Luke 9 shows that Jesus had grit and determination; the disciples thought they had it (but didn't when it counted); and we don't know what the would-be disciples ended up doing. The first appropriate way to apply this text is to reckon with Jesus's demands and to humbly repent of areas where we have failed to follow Him with all our being.
- What are excuses people in Knoxville today might make when Jesus commands them to follow Him? What steps can we take to help them know and understand Jesus better?
- What are some excuses you've made (even well-intentioned ones) that have prevented you from following Jesus?

PRAY

- Ask the Lord for forgiveness for failing to follow Him with determination in the areas where He has revealed that sin. Trust Him for His grace and forgiveness.
- Worship and thank the Lord for His grit and determination! It is because of His obedience unto death that we are counted faithful by God even when we are not. Praise Him for securing your record of faithful obedience to God and determine to grow in your faithful responses to Him.

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