

How To Grow as a Believer & Follower of Jesus

Wednesday Nights at 6:30 pm

Begins August 2



Class 4, Wednesday, August 30

NOTE: A bird built a nest on Pastor Jack's door, laid eggs, and fed the babies. We enjoyed watching the process. They are now full grown!

Class Introduction & Guidelines

We meet (for now) in Building D!

Format: This is an interactive class more than a sermon. Participate!

Videos are online in our class section if you miss a class.

Tonight's Bible Verse – Matthew 7:24-27

"Therefore everyone who hears these words of mine and puts them into practice is like a wise man who built his house on the rock. The rain came down, the streams rose, and the winds blew and beat against that house; yet it did not fall, because it had its foundation on the rock. But everyone who hears these words of mine and does not put them into practice is like a foolish man who built his house on sand. The rain came down, the streams rose, and the winds blew and beat against that house, and it fell with a great crash."

Step One – Honest Evaluation (Review)

Step one is personal evaluation. What sins, attitudes, beliefs, and practices need to go? What holds you back from growing? How many roaches are we willing to have in our milkshakes?

Step Two – Learning to listen to Jesus (Review)

Step two is learning to listen to Jesus amid a thousand other voices around us. You can't follow the leader unless you know who the leader is and what He wants. And Jesus is our leader.

Step Three – Doing

Knowing what Jesus wants is not enough. Listening to Jesus is not enough. Jesus made that clear in Matthew. Calling him "Lord, Lord" (in verse 21) is not enough. The conclusion of his *Sermon on the Mount* (the clearest statement of Christian behavior in the Bible) is a strong statement. Hearing His words and not doing them leads to disaster. Only hearing and doing leads to real growth.

It's who we are. Jesus did not call us students, for we are not just learners. He called us disciples, learners and doers!

How well do you imitate? How well do you play *Simon Says*? (Which in our terms is really *Jesus Says*.)

Where Do You Start?

Since the Sermon on the Mount (Matthew 5-7) is the clearest statement in the Bible of Christian Behavior, it's a good place to start. But don't just study these things—do them:

1. S _____ . (5:21-22)
2. R _____ . (5:23-26)
3. D _____ . (5:27-30)
4. T _____ . (5:33-36)
5. D _____ . (5:38-42)
6. L _____ . (5:43-48)
7. B _____ . (6:1-4)
8. P _____ . (6:5-13)
9. F _____ . (6:14-14)
10. S _____ . (6:19-24)
11. S _____ . (6:25-34)
12. D _____ . (7:1-5)