

GOING WITH JESUS!

Luke 9:57-62

INTRODUCTION: Paul wrote this to the quite carnal church at Corinth: 2 Corinthians 13:5. Sad to say, but many in Corinthian church probably did not really have Jesus Christ in them and the same thing is sadly true of many in the church today. The test of Jesus Christ being in you or not is very important; it is the difference between heaven and hell. Let me ask you tonight: "Are you a fan or a follower of Jesus Christ? Luke 9:57-62: These two men make us think of four questions tonight.

I. WILL YOU REALLY GO WITH JESUS "WHEREVER?"

The man volunteered, "I'll go with you wherever". Would you say that to Jesus? We love to sing in our church, "Wherever He Leads I'll Go." Wherever sounds good until you realize that takes away all your boundaries. Mark 10:17-27: If Jesus allowed the rich young ruler to walk away from following Him, he will allow anyone to walk away.

II. WILL YOU GO WITH JESUS "WHENEVER?"

In Luke 9:59-60 we see Jesus giving the same call to a man that He had earlier given to His apostles. Our Lord's words "Follow me." Are simple to hear but they can be difficult to obey. Matthew 4:18-22: This is the example to follow. Now the man Jesus asked here to follow Him seems to have a valid excuse for the delay in following Jesus. He needed to wait until he had buried his father. He even called Jesus "Lord." The bad thing he said was "First." Lord before I obey you I must do this first! Please remember all the days of your life: "God does not request first place in the life of His followers: He demands first place: Exodus 20:2-6. Fans today still think they can obey if they chose to or simply obey when it is convenient to them. 2 Corinthians 6:1-2.

III. WILL YOU GO WITH JESUS "WHATEVER?"

The third man in our text resembles the second man except that he seems to be a volunteer. He wants to follow Jesus but not right now. Jesus must be given top priority in our lives at all times of our lives! Luke 9:61-62. We go toward whatever we are looking at. When we look at anything else than Jesus we get distracted. We are not willing to go all in for Jesus because our "Whatever" is more important at the time than Jesus is to our hearts. Jesus points to our "Whatever" and says "What about that?" What is it in your life today that has your attention more than Jesus has your attention? The life of a "follower" is marked with "No reserve!" "No retreat!" and "No regret!" The life of a fan is a life of "what-if's!"

IV. ARE YOU GOING WITH JESUS?

Jesus is looking for volunteers and He is calling to you and to me. He is calling us to go with Him to a place we do not know. Being a fan means you are watching what Jesus and His followers are doing. Being a follower means you are joining Jesus in His work! For some that following means going to the cross for salvation. The cross of Jesus is a place of death, death to self and living for your Savior! For others becoming a follower may mean laying your life on the altar as a living sacrifice to God: Romans 12:1-2. Are you willing to follow Jesus wherever, whenever and no matter whatever? If we truly want to be a follower of Jesus Christ we must leave the "When" the "Where" and the "What" with Him and simply follow Him!