Following Jesus is _

Again Jesus said, "Peace be with you! As the Father has sent me, I am sending you." John 20:21 (NIV)

Then Jesus came to them and said, "All authority in heaven and on earth has been given to me. ¹⁹ Therefore go and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, ²⁰ and teaching them to obey everything I have commanded you. And surely I am with you always, to the very end of the age." Matthew 28:18-20 (NIV)

Imitate God, therefore, in everything you do, because you are his dear children. ² Live a life filled with love, following the example of Christ. Ephesians 5:1-2b (NLT)

Timothy, my dear son, be strong through the grace that God gives you in Christ Jesus. ²You have heard me teach things that have been confirmed by many reliable witnesses. Now teach these truths to other trustworthy people who will be able to pass them on to others. II Timothy 2:1-2 (NIV)

> Follow my example, as I follow the example of Christ. I Corinthians 11:1 (NIV)

One of them, the disciple whom Jesus loved, was reclining next to him. John 13:23 (NIV)

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"Come, <u>follow me</u>," Jesus said, "and I will send you out to fish for people." Matthew 4:19 (NIV)

As Jesus went on from there, he saw a man named Matthew sitting at the tax collector's booth. <u>"Follow me,"</u> he told him, and Matthew got up and followed him. Matthew 9:9 (NIV)

Then he said to them all: "Whoever wants to be my disciple must deny themselves and take up their cross daily and <u>follow me.</u> " Luke 9:23 (NIV)

"Follow me!" John 21:19b (NIV)

"You must follow me." John 21:122b (NIV)

"My sheep listen to my voice, I know them, and they <u>follow me.</u>" John 10:27 (NIV)

Following Jesus = Being a _____

A disciple is someone who comes to Jesus for life and then builds their life around Him. A disciple has a heart that is set on becoming a disciplined follower of Jesus Christ who listens, learns, and puts into practice what is learned

But those who obey God's word truly show how completely they love him. That is how we know we are living in him. ⁶Those who say they live in God should live their lives as Jesus did. I John 2:5-6 (NLT)

Following Jesus is

Then he said to them all: "Whoever wants to be my disciple must deny themselves and take up their cross daily and follow me." Luke 9:23 (NIV)

He appointed twelve that they might be with him and that he might send them out to preach. Mark 3:14 (NIV)

Intentional _____. "But the time is coming—indeed it's here now—when true worshipers will worship the Father in spirit and in truth. The Father is looking for those who will worship him that way. ²⁴ For God is Spirit, so those who worship him must worship in spirit and in truth." John 4:23-24 (NLT)

When Jesus spoke again to the people, he said, "I am the light of the world. Whoever follows me will never walk in darkness, but will have the light of life." John 8:12 (NIV)

Intentional "A new command I give you: Love one another. As I have loved you, so vou must love one another. ³⁵ By this everyone will know that you are my disciples, if you love one another." John 11:34-35 (NIV)

"If you love me, keep my commands." John 14:15 (NIV)

Intentional "If any of you wants to serve me, then follow me. Then you'll be where I am, ready to serve at a moment's notice. The Father will honor and reward anyone who serves me." John 12:26 (MSG)

For we are God's handiwork, created in Christ Jesus to do good works, which God prepared in advance for us to do. Ephesians 2:10 (NIV)

Intentional _____. And Jesus said to them, "Follow Me, and I will make you become fishers of men." Mark 1:19 (NASB)

"...let your light shine before others, that they may see your good deeds and glorify your Father in heaven." Matthew 5:12 (NIV)

Following Jesus requires

"A new command I give you: Love one another. As I have loved you, so you must love one another. ³⁵ By this everyone will know that you are my disciples, if you love one another." John 13:34-35 (NIV)

The church is a community where believers connect with each other on a spiritual level to spur each other on to a deeper relationship with God. Building a community of believers is more than just individual friendships; it is an atmosphere that fosters deep and growing relationships, where friends connect in the grace of Jesus and the truth of God's Word. In such a community, believers can authentically challenge and encourage each other through words and deeds toward becoming more and more like Christ.

Those who accepted his message were baptized, and about three thousand were added to their number that day. ⁴² They devoted themselves to the apostles' teaching and to fellowship, to the breaking of bread and to prayer. ⁴³ Everyone was filled with awe at the many wonders and signs performed by the apostles. ⁴⁴ All the believers were together and had everything in common. ⁴⁵ They sold property and possessions to give to anyone who had need.⁴⁶ Every day they continued to meet together in the temple courts. They broke bread in their homes and ate together with glad and sincere hearts, ⁴⁷ praising God and enjoying the favor of all the people. And the Lord added to their number daily those who were being saved.

Acts 2:41-47 (NIV)