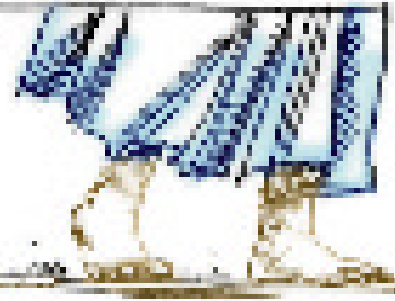


# Learning from Jesus "Follow Me."

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Lesson 3 / Page 1

## Loving Our Lord

Another incredible attribute or characteristic of our God is that He is sovereign. The American Heritage Dictionary's definition of this word is: *Paramount; supreme; having supreme rank or power; self-governing; independent.*

Read King David's prayer from 1 Chronicles 29:10-13.

1. What does this prayer tell you about God? \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

2. From the list below, look up at least four verses and write out what they say about the sovereignty or supremacy of God:

Deuteronomy 10:14,17 \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

1 Samuel 2:6-8 \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

2 Chronicles 20:6 \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

Nehemiah 9:6 \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

Psalms 47:2-3, 7-8 \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

Psalms 50:10-11 \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

Psalms 95:3-5 \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

Psalms 115:3 \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

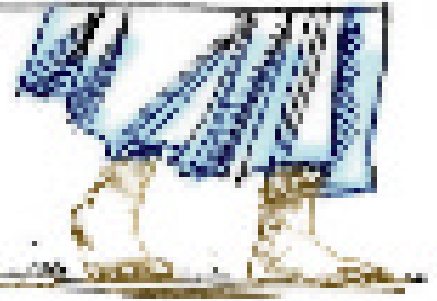
Psalms 135:7 \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

Psalms 145:13 \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

Acts 17:24-26 \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

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Lesson 3 / Page 2

3. If we believe this truth about God's sovereignty, how will this knowledge affect our day-to-day lives?  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_
4. Ecclesiastes 7:13-14 points out something that can make us uncomfortable. What does it say?  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_
5. Some things in our lives are "crooked" because of our own messes we make that God allows, but some things are "crooked" simply because God made them that way. What promise do we have for either situation from Romans 8:28? \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_
6. Think of a situation in your own life where you may not feel like God is in control. What does the truth of God's Word teach you? \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_
7. What does Proverbs 3:5-6 instruct you to do? \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_
8. What promise is given in verse six? \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

God is *supreme*. God is *sovereign*. He is not surprised by anything that comes our way because He has all authority over everything. Talk to Him about the situation you thought of in question five. He can even take what others intend to use to harm you and use it for good. If you want to read a great illustration of this truth, read the story of Joseph from Genesis 41-50. Proverbs 3:5-6 directs our focus to the fact that God's ways are different than ours (see also Isaiah 55:8).

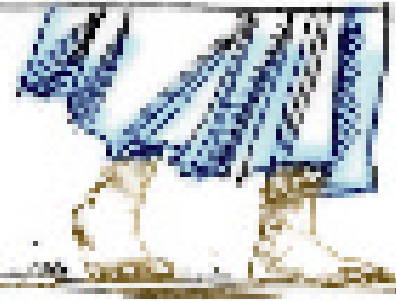
Have you stopped praying in faith that God will work out your situation for good? Perhaps it's time to re-focus off of the problem and onto God's sovereignty. When we consider this attribute of God along with the one we studied in lesson two (*God's love*), it gives us incredible hope. The Father who proved His love through the sacrifice of His only Son is sovereign over your life. Will you take some time to thank Him for that hope? You may want to write out a specific prayer about this in your journal.

## Learning His Word

Jesus has invited us to be His disciples, to take on His yoke, and to become His apprentices. He told us in John 8:31 that the evidence that we are His disciples is that we continue to listen to His Word and obey it. In lesson two we began to study who Jesus is. We saw that He boldly made claims about why He came to earth and the consequences of believing or not believing in Him.

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Lesson 3 / Page 3

Studying Jesus' life while He was here on earth is a way that we learn from Him. In lesson two we saw Jesus speaking truth boldly to those who would listen. In this lesson we will look at another side of our Savior.

1. What one word is repeated in the following verses that describes Jesus? \_\_\_\_\_

Matthew 9:36 \_\_\_\_\_

Matthew 14:14 \_\_\_\_\_

Matthew 15:32 \_\_\_\_\_

Mark 1:40-42 \_\_\_\_\_

Mark 6:34 \_\_\_\_\_

2. What kinds of things brought out the compassion of Christ according to the verses you just read?

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

3. Jesus gives some more insight into the character of one of His disciples. First of all we will continue in His Word, and secondly we will do what according to John 13:34-35? \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

4. Jesus, our teacher, says, "as I have loved you, so you must love one another" (John 13:34). What are some words you can think of to describe the way Jesus loves? \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

5. Jesus' compassion displayed His love for the hurting. His suffering on the cross displayed His love while He paid the penalty for our sins. As we watch Jesus interact with sinners just like us in the New Testament, we see His love displayed unconditionally.

Paul does a beautiful job of describing Jesus' love in His letter to the Colossians. \_ What picture does he give us in Colossians 3:12-14? \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

6. Being disciples who love one another as Jesus loved can be an overwhelming thought. How are we to accomplish this? Read John 15:5-8 and explain in your own words what you hear your teacher, Jesus, saying.

\_\_\_\_\_

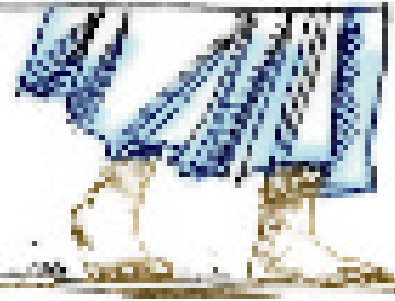
\_\_\_\_\_

7. Who receives the glory as we display the fruit of Christ in our lives? \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

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Lesson 3 / Page 4

## Core Belief

A second core belief of a disciple of Christ is belief in the *Trinity*. The doctrine (core belief) of the Trinity teaches that God is personified in three ways. There is God the Father, God the Son and God the Holy Spirit. Each person of the Trinity is fully God and all of God's attributes are true in each one. This is one of the most important doctrines of the Christian faith. The word *Trinity* is not found in the Bible, yet this truth is taught in many places. As early as Genesis 1:26 God's Word begins to reveal this truth when God says, "let us make man in *our* image, after *our* likeness." Several Old Testament verses speak of one God in three persons (see Psalm 110:1 and Isaiah 63:10).

The New Testament gives us a more complete revelation of the Trinity. This is important for us as disciples to understand because we have been given an incredible gift from the Father.

1. What does Jesus promise His disciples in John 14:15-18 and in verse 26? \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_
2. What will the Holy Spirit give us according to Acts 1:8? \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_
3. Galatians 5:22-26 lists the fruit of the Spirit. Jesus says that if we remain in Him we will bear much fruit. This fruit is a gift of His Spirit in us! How do we remain in Jesus according to John 15:7 and 10?  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_
  - a. What's our responsibility? \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_
  - b. What's the Spirit's responsibility? \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

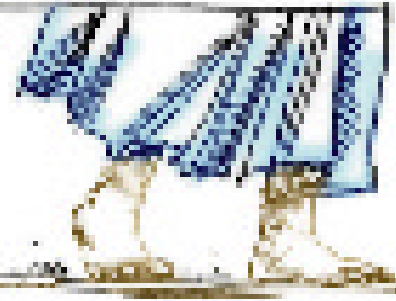
## Living His Way

We've seen Jesus' boldness and compassion, and we've learned that we are to love as He loved. Think back to what you learned in lesson 1 from Luke 14. One of the conditions of being Jesus' disciple that we learned is unrivaled love. We are to love Jesus before anyone else and even more than we love ourselves.

1. When you think about loving others unconditionally, in what ways might you need to deny yourself?  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

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Lesson 3 / Page 5

2. Do you find that there is a direct correlation between remaining in Christ and your power to love others unconditionally? \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_
3. Think back to lesson two and Jesus' boldness in speaking to the crowds. When is it necessary for us to speak the truth in love even though it might be uncomfortable? \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_
4. What should be our motive behind speaking the truth? \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_
5. What role does the Holy Spirit have in our call to discipleship? \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_
6. Most of us know we are to love others as Jesus did, but when it comes to putting that command into practice sometimes we make exceptions. Who is excluded from your list of those you choose to love? More than likely it is someone who has hurt you in some way. Today, will you open the door for the Holy Spirit to love through you? Simply begin by praying for that difficult person in your life.  
According to James 1:22-25, what are we to do and what will the outcome be? \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

Look back over this lesson. End your time in prayer inviting the Holy Spirit to counsel you through His Word. Pick out just one thing from this lesson that you want to practice in your daily life. Commit that challenge to the Lord in prayer. Remember, He loves you and He is sovereign and supreme. You can trust Him to work all things out for the good.

Summary Statement:

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Memory Verse:

John 13:34-35. Write it out in the space provided.

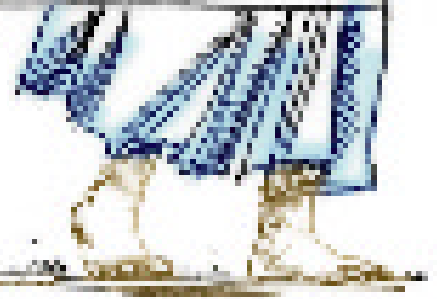
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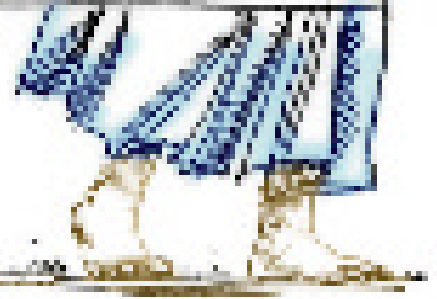
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Lesson 3 / Page 6

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