

START SMALL —Week 5: Follow Jesus, Without Excuses

Main Idea:

Have you ever said you're going to do something, but didn't do it? Maybe you were well-intended and planned to do it; however, you procrastinated or came up with an excuse for putting it off. Eventually, it just left your mind. So many of us have said "yes" to following Jesus, but there was a qualifier that went with it. In other words, your answer was not "yes," it was "maybe later," or "only if I have the time after I have done something else." This week, we are going to challenge our excuses for not following Jesus.

Key Questions:

- When did you commit your life to following Jesus?
- Have you made excuses for not fully surrendering your life to Jesus?
- When have you prioritized your comfort, family, friends, activities, and work before Jesus?

Optional Questions:

Read Luke 9:57-62

- Do you see yourself in any of the "would-be" followers?
- What is Jesus asking of those who follow him?
- Do you see Jesus as a teacher (someone to learn from), or a Rabbi (someone to imitate)?

Small Steps: How can you Start Small, but make change in your life for the better?

Day 1	<i>James 4:17</i>	Take a few moments to remember something good you were to do. Now do it.
Day 2	<i>1 Peter 1:13</i>	Tell a loved one/friend what you love about them .
Day 3	<i>John 6:66-67</i>	Have you ever stopped following Jesus? Why?
Day 4	<i>Philippians 3:7-11</i>	Write out <i>Philippians 3:8</i> in your journal, or highlight it in your Bible, or write it on a notecard. Think about it all day. In your personal experiences, is there anything you would consider "worthless" or "loss" in comparison to knowing Christ?
Day 5	<i>Mark 14:50-52</i>	Have you ever deserted Jesus or not surrendered to His call? Will you fully surrender to Jesus today?
Day 6	<i>Luke 5:27</i>	What excuses have prevented you from following Jesus?
Day 7	<i>Romans 12:1</i>	Is there anything in your life you wouldn't give up to follow Jesus?