

Title: Fan or Follower
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Mark 8:34-38

³⁴ Now when He had called the people *to Himself* with His disciples also, He said to them, Whoever wishes to come after Me, let him deny himself and take up his cross and follow Me. ³⁵ “For whoever wishes to save his life will lose it, but whoever wishes to lose his life for My sake and the gospel’s, the same will save it. ³⁶ “For what will it profit a man if he will gain the whole world, and lose his own soul? ³⁷ “Or what will a man give in exchange for his soul? ³⁸ “For whoever is ashamed of Me and My words in this adulterous and sinful generation, of him also will the Son of Man be ashamed when He comes in the glory of His Father with the holy angels.”

Mark 2:18

“Some people came and asked Jesus, “How is it that John’s disciples and the disciples of the Pharisees are fasting, but yours are not?”

1. Who can be Jesus’ follower?

- **Anyone can be Jesus’ follower**
- **Jesus commission to those who where his followers already was to go and make more people his followers.**

Matt 28:19

Therefore go and make disciples of all nations...

- **He said to make followers of anyone and everyone.**
- **When we become his follower, we enter into that saving relationship with Him.**
- **Throughout Scripture, we see that this is available to anyone and everyone.**

Rom 10:11-13

¹¹ “Anyone who trusts in him will never be put to shame.” ¹² For there is no difference between Jew and Gentile – the same Lord is Lord of all and richly blesses all who call on him, ¹³ for, “Everyone who calls on the name of the Lord will be saved.”

- **So, anyone can be a follower of Jesus.**

Acts 4:13

When they saw the courage of Peter and John and realized that they were unschooled, ordinary men, they were astonished and they took note that these men had been with Jesus.

2. What does it cost to be His follower?

- **It costs nothing**
- **It is free of cost to you in the sense that you can’t do anything to pay for it or merit it.**
- **Jesus paid the cost with His life.**

Rev 21:6

“It is done. I am the Alpha and the Omega. The Beginning and the End. To him who is thirsty I will give to drink without cost from the spring of water of life.”

Rev 22:18

Whoever is thirsty, let him come’ whoever wishes, let him take the free gift of the water of life.

- Its cost nothing .. and everything!!

3. How can it cost nothing and everything?

- While it is free to follow, the following itself is costly.

Mark 8:34-38

³⁴ Then he called the crowd to him along with his disciples and said: "If anyone would come after me, he must deny himself and take up his cross and follow me. ³⁵ For whoever wants to save his life will lose it, but whoever loses his life for me and for the gospel will save it. ³⁶ What good is it for a man to gain the whole world, yet forfeit his soul? ³⁷ Or what can a man give in exchange for his soul?"

Mark 1:16-20

¹⁶ And as He walked by the Sea of Galilee, He saw Simon and Andrew his brother casting a net into the sea; for they were fishermen. ¹⁷ Then Jesus said to them, "Follow Me, and I will make you become fishers of men." ¹⁸ They immediately left their nets and follow Him. ¹⁹ When He had gone a little further from there, He saw James the son of Zebedee, and John his brother, who also were in the boat mending their nets. ²⁰ And immediately He called them, and they left their father Zebedee in the boat with the hired servants, and went after Him.

- Following Jesus means denying yourself and not going your own way.

Mark

Then he called the crowd to him along with his disciples and said: "If anyone would come after me, he must deny himself and take up his cross and follow me.

- Following Jesus means persecution

2 Tim 3:12

"everyone who wants to live a godly life in Christ Jesus will be persecuted"

- Following Jesus means suffering

Phil 1:29

For to you it has been granted on behalf of Christ not only to believe in him, but also to suffer for His sake.

- Following Jesus means hardship

2 Tim 2:3

You therefore must endure hardship as a good soldier of Jesus Christ.

- Following Jesus is not a vacation.
- Following Jesus will cost you everything.