

my prayer for you

God, I pray that the following pages will strengthen the family that is reading and answering these questions together. I pray that the family would grow closer together, and grow closer to You. Show Yourself real to them over the next 10 weeks as they learn about You, Your love for them, and the plan You have for their lives. May reading these pages inspire them to imitate You.

Amen

Beginning Steps



When Jesus called His disciples, He did not ask if they believed in Him. He first asked that they follow Him. When we start on our journey, we may not believe, and we sure don't want to obey, but Jesus just wants us to begin to follow. As we follow, we begin to understand more about Him, His character, and His love for us. The more we are with Him and know Him, the easier it is to believe. Once we believe, then we can trust and have an easier time obeying Him. The following pages will help you understand what it means to Follow, Believe, and Obey.

FamilyTalk

Follow

Think about it— Jesus wants us to follow Him. We know that, but we like to know where we are going when we do follow Him. Jesus doesn't always tell us where we are going, He just wants us to follow and He will lead us where He wants us to go.

How do we follow Jesus?

Mark 1:16-18

As Jesus walked beside the Sea of Galilee, he saw Simon and his brother Andrew casting a net into the lake, for they were fishermen. "Come, follow me," Jesus said, "and I will make you fishers of men." At once they left their nets and followed him.

Matthew 10:38-39

And anyone who does not take his cross and follow me is not worthy of me. Whoever finds his life will lose it, and whoever loses his life for my sake will find it.

Find some time this week to see what the Bible has to say about following Jesus.

Read Matthew 9:9-13

What was Matthew doing?

Where did Jesus say they were going?

Who did Jesus eat with?

Read Luke 5:1-11

What did Jesus see the fishermen doing?

What did Jesus tell them to do?

What did they do just before following Jesus?

Final Thought

Follow

Jesus wants us to follow Him. He doesn't always tell us where we are going, but that really doesn't matter when He is leading. He knows what is best for us, and He leads us exactly where He wants us to be. All we need to do is follow, even if we don't know where we are going. Sometimes following Jesus isn't easy. He wants us to take up our cross and follow Him. Think about Easter. We all know what happened when Jesus picked up His cross. He ended up dying for us. Sometimes crazy things happen when we choose to follow Jesus, but we need to remember that He knows where He is going. He knows what is best for us. He loves us so much that He carried His own cross up a hill and died for us. Take a little time this week to think about what Jesus did for you, and thank Him for all He has done.