

## **Outline for February 12, 2012 (Luke 5:33-39) - "Follow Me"**

**Introduction:** Following Jesus is a lifestyle initiated by grace, centered in the cross and founded upon the steadfast love of God. It is the daily pursuit of our great King and following His leadership and direction as revealed in the Scripture. Because He is the way, the truth and the life, all of life summed up under His Lordship. His sovereignty rules over all and His providence insures that our lives are kept safe in His refuge, even when the way grows weary, tough and hard.

### **I. Luke's preface and the introduction of John the Baptist and Jesus (1:1-2:52)**

### **II. Preparation for Ministry: the supremacy of God in the fullness of time (3:1-4:13)**

### **III. The Galilean Ministry (4:14-9:50)**

#### **A. Summary of the Galilean ministry (4:14-15)**

#### **B. Preaching in Nazareth (4:16-30)**

#### **C. The necessity of preaching the good news of the kingdom of God (4:31-44)**

#### **D. Gathering of disciples (5:1-6:16)**

##### **1. The remarkable providence of God (5:1, 12, 17)**

##### **2. The miraculous catch of fish and Peter (5:1-11)**

##### **3. The sovereignty, authority and mercy of King Jesus (5:12-16)**

##### **4. An amazing confrontation (5:16-17)**

##### **5. "We have seen extraordinary (strange) things today (5:18-26)**

##### **6. Levi the tax collector (5:27-32)**

##### **7. A question about fasting (5:33-39)**

#### **a. Following Jesus is not about rules and regulations**

- It is a path of joy – forgiveness, a joy that flows from relationship and that flows from brokenness (Ephesians 4:32, 5:1-2, 8-10, 15-18)
- It is the way of sober-mindedness secured with great serenity (I Peter 1:13-25)
- It is a road of discovery and relationship built on the foundation of grace (I Timothy 1:12f)
- It is following hard after God (Psalm 63:1-8)  
Fasting is relational – hungering for God  
Fasting is not about mourning but gladness even in the midst of conflict – spiritual warfare

#### **b. Following Jesus is not about add-ons – we don't add Jesus to our lifestyle as an insurance policy**

- Following Jesus is not patchwork Christianity, it is all or nothing
- Following Jesus is embracing His Lordship in every area of life – not replacing one impulsive behavior with another. It is living in the newness of grace.  
(II Corinthians 5:17-6:10)

#### **c. Following Jesus is not about retaining the old, tired, worn-out ways of cultural religion, trying to make ourselves better, but about the fresh, fiery, new relation with Christ borne out of His death and resurrection**

- The gospel is fresh and new
- The doctrines of grace never grow old or outdated – they speak to the very essence and vitality of God's purpose and grace in His work of redemption
- Following Jesus is resting in the finished work of Christ
- Worship comes alive
- Following Jesus is a life filled with the Spirit (Galatians 5:1, 16, 2:20)  
(Acts 2:13, 14-16, 22-24, 32-41)

