

# Follow

JESUS SAYS

## Relational:

### Father - Child

So you have not received a spirit that makes you fearful slaves. Instead, you received God's Spirit when he adopted you as his own children. Now we call him, "Abba, Father." **Rms. 8:15 NLT**

### Vine - Branch

"Yes, I am the vine; you are the branches. Those who remain in me, and I in them, will produce much fruit. For apart from me you can do nothing. **John 15:5 NLT**

### Shepherd - Sheep

"I am the good shepherd. The good shepherd sacrifices his life for the sheep. After he has gathered his own flock, he walks ahead of them, and they follow him because they know his voice. **John 10:11,4 NLT**

## 1. Simple

As Jesus went on from there, he saw a man named Matthew sitting at the tax collector's booth. "Follow me," he told him, and Matthew got up and followed him. **Mt. 9:9 NIV**

If you are willing to \_\_\_\_\_, you can follow me.

Am I following?

## 2. Comfortable

While Jesus was having dinner at Matthew's house, many tax collectors and sinners came and ate with him and his disciples. **Mt. 9:10 NIV**



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## SUNDAY WORSHIP

WORSHIP 9:15 AM

MODERN  
WORSHIP 11 AM

KIDS  
WORSHIP 11 AM

## UPCOMING EVENTS

**TODAY - MMT @ 12:45pm**

**TODAY - Nursing Home Ministry:**

**2:30 @ Somerford Asst. Living**

**3:45 @ Golden Living Center**

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**1/15 - Personal Spiritual Renewal Time @ 6:30pm - 8:30pm**

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**1/25 - MMT Retreat @ Allen & Deb's 9-3pm**

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**XP3 STUDENT MINISTRY @ 7-8:30pm** each Wed! (middle/high students)



**TOTALLY HIS**  
HEART, HANDS, VOICE  
LOTTIE MOON CHRISTMAS OFFERING\*

**OUR GOAL \$6,500.00 - TO DATE \$5,002.17**

### **1/18 - Church Skating Party**

**@ Starland Skating Rink @ 5-7pm and it's FREE!!**

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### **Marriage Retreat - FEB 7-8**

**Friday Feb. 7th - 6:30 - 9:15pm** (childcare provided)

**Saturday Feb. 8th - 8:30am - 3:30pm** (lunch provided)

*Must Register by Jan 26th - Cost: \$25/couple*

\*If you are a guest... please feel free to let the offering plate pass.  
\*Audio version of the teachings can be found at [www.smithsburgvalleychurch.com](http://www.smithsburgvalleychurch.com)



### **3. Confused**

When the Pharisees saw this, they asked his disciples, "Why does your teacher eat with tax collectors and sinners?" **Mt. 9:11 NIV**

### **4. Sick**

On hearing this, Jesus said, "It is not the healthy who need a doctor, but the sick. **Mt. 9:12 NIV**

### **5. Come to call**

Go and learn what this means: 'I desire mercy, not sacrifice.' For I have not come to call the righteous, but sinners." **Mt. 9:13 NIV**

**Pharisees: Change and you can join us!**

**Jesus: Join us and you will change!**

**Following Jesus:**

**\* Being a sinner doesn't disqualify you - it's a prerequisite.**

**\* Being an unbeliever doesn't disqualify you - None of Jesus' earliest followers believed.**

**\* The invitation to follow is an invitation to relationship.**

Do you not realize that God's kindness is meant to lead you to repentance? **Rms. 2:4b NRSV**

**\*Forces me to focus on where I am rather than where you are not.**

**The more conscious I am of the work God has yet to do in me, the less critical I am of what God has to do in you.**

**Am I following?**

**Jan. 5, 2014**