

disciple

THE
CALL
TO FOLLOW

THE TOP PRIORITY
WEEK OF FEB 16

READING ASSIGNMENT

This week's reading is an excerpt from *Walking in the Dust of Rabbi Jesus* by Lois Tverberg. The PDF of this reading is available on our website at rockypeak.org/disciple. If you prefer a hard copy, you can pick one up at Starting Point on the patio of the Worship Center during the weekend services. You can also access the reading by scanning the QR code here.



GETTING STARTED

This weekend we continued in our series, *Disciple... The Call to Follow*. We learned that, while many things in life are important, Jesus models for us our top priority as His disciples. As you prepare for today's study, reflect on these words from the Apostle Paul:

We make it our goal to please him, ... He died for all, that those who live should no longer live for themselves but for him who died for them and was raised again.

2 Corinthians 5:9, 15

STUDY QUESTIONS

1. This weekend we learned that *Jesus' Top Priority . . . Is To Please His Father*. Thinking over your life, was there any point when you sensed God calling you to make Him a higher priority in your life? If so, please explain.
2. If you have gone through a time like this, what changes did this lead to in your life? Did this require you to make any practical changes in your schedule, finances, conversations, relationships, service, etc.? How did these changes impact your life, your growth, your relationship with God and others, etc.?
3. When it comes to our priorities, sometimes "the good can become the enemy of the best." Read **Luke 10:38-42** and then answer the following questions.
 - a. What priorities would you say each sister had?
 - b. Would you say that Martha's or Mary's priorities were wrong? Why or why not?

- c. In what way did “the good become the enemy of the best” for Martha?
- d. Do you have any priorities in your life right now that are good things but tend to crowd out the best things? Explain.
- e. What do you think are some warning signs that we’ve made a “good thing” the “best thing” in our life?
4. This weekend, Michael highlighted seven other areas of life that often compete to be our top priority. He called these the “7 P’s”:
- *People*
 - *Pleasure*
 - *Possessions*
 - *Popularity*
 - *Position*
 - *Power*
 - *Pursuit*
- a. Which of these competes the most to be the top priority in your life? Why is that?
- b. How do you think your relationship with Jesus suffers when you make that your primary focus?
- c. What would it look like to prioritize God over that area of your life?
5. In the message, Michael explored seven statements of Jesus from the Gospel of John that reveal Jesus’ top priority. Review the first six of these passages in the message notes. Describe in your own words Jesus’ priority in each of these statements.
- a. Which of these priorities of Jesus do you sense you need to adopt as your own?
6. This week, we read a selection from *Walking in the Dust of Rabbi Jesus*.
- a. What stood out to you most in this reading?
- b. On page 39, Lois Tverberg says, “Jewish scholar Jeffrey Tigay asserts that even though the Scriptures clearly preach monotheism, the *Shema* itself is not a statement of belief. It’s an oath of loyalty.” What do you think loyalty to God alone looks like?
7. Reread *A Modern Shema* on page 53 and meditate on this version.
- a. Do you think you love God in the way this version of the *Shema* describes? Explain.
- b. What would it look like to live this out in your life? Do you sense the Holy Spirit calling you to make any specific changes in your life to love God better this week?
- c. We can trust the Lord to grow our hearts and help us to make Him the ultimate priority in our lives. Spend a few minutes praying for Him to do just that and for the courage, trust, and power to take the next steps He asks of you.