

## **DISTRACTED DISCIPLESHIP**

### **Luke 9.51-62**

Jesus has previously issued a couple of calls of discipleship to his followers. In this passage, he decisively sets his mind to head to Jerusalem and go to the cross. As he travels along the way, he warns about a distracted discipleship, clearly laying out the implications of what it means to be one of his followers.

*I came so they can have real and eternal life, more and better life than they ever dreamed of.*  
John 10.10

*Then he said to them all: "Whoever wants to be my disciple must deny themselves and take up their cross daily and follow me. For whoever wants to save their life will lose it, but whoever loses their life for me will save it. What good is it for someone to gain the whole world, and yet lose or forfeit their very self?"*  
Luke 9.23-25

- We can be distracted by our **NATIONAL IDENTITY** vv52-55

*After this I looked, and there before me was a great multitude that no one could count, from every nation, tribe, people and language, standing before the throne and before the Lamb. They were wearing white robes and were holding palm branches in their hands.*  
Revelation 7.8-9

- We can be distracted by our regular **COMFORTS** vv57-58

*I am not saying this because I am in need, for I have learned to be content whatever the circumstances. I know what it is to be in need, and I know what it is to have plenty. I have learned the secret of being content in any and every situation, whether well fed or hungry, whether living in plenty or in want. I can do all this through him who gives me strength.*  
Philippians 4.11-13

- We can be distracted by our **CULTURAL** and **FAMILY OBLIGATIONS**.

*"If you want to be my disciple, you must, by comparison, hate everyone else—your father and mother, wife and children, brothers and sisters—yes, even your own life. Otherwise, you cannot be my disciple."* Luke 14.26

- We can be distracted by **OUR PAST**.

*Brothers and sisters, I do not consider myself yet to have taken hold of it. But one thing I do: Forgetting what is behind and straining toward what is ahead, I press on toward the goal to win the prize for which God has called me heavenward in Christ Jesus.*  
Philippians 3.13-14

When God calls you, and you say yes to following Jesus, what are the "buts" that are on the tip of your tongue, or muttered under your breath, or the truth you really mean instead? How do you finish this sentence to Jesus, *"I will follow you, but first let me..."* what?

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**What is God saying to me?**

**What am I going to do about it?**

**Love God, Love Others, Learn Jesus, DO SOMETHING!**

Today's sermon can be found on our website [beaverdambaptist.org](http://beaverdambaptist.org)