



Come. Follow. Me.
Jesus' Invitation of Life
#3 – Come and Receive

"Come to me, all you who are weary and burdened, and I will give you rest. Take my yoke upon you and learn from me, for I am gentle and humble in heart, and you will find rest for your souls. For my yoke is easy and my burden is light."

- Jesus as recorded in Matthew 11:28-30 (New International Version)

Come and Believe

1. Jesus's ministry of preaching, teaching, and healing (Matthew 4:23) always had one clear purpose: to call or help people to _____.

- a. The _____ (lit = "good news") of the kingdom of God coming near, particularly with His earthly presence. This means the reign and rule of God is accessible and available to all who choose to align with God over the world. The kingdom is not a located political empire, but rather the submission of the heart, mind, and body to the King of Kings and Lord of Lords.

"After John was put in prison, Jesus went into Galilee, proclaiming the good news of God. 'The time has come' he said. 'The kingdom of God has come near. Repent and believe the good news!'"
- Mark 1:14-15 (NIV)

- b. In Him specifically, as the One whom the Father sent. He is how we know God and have access to Him (John 14:6). Jesus is God the Father's final and _____ revelation of Himself (John 14:7-9; Colossians 2:9; Hebrews 1:1-3).

"Then they asked him, 'What must we do to do the works God requires?' Jesus answered, 'The work of God is this: to believe in the one he has sent.'" - John 6:28-29 (NIV)

- c. He is the prophesied and _____ Messiah, who redeems people from their sins (Matthew 26:26-28).

"'But what about you?' he asked. 'Who do you say I am?' Simon Peter answered, 'You are the Messiah, the Son of the living God.' Jesus replied, 'Blessed are you, Simon son of Jonah, for this was not revealed to you by flesh and blood, but by my Father in heaven.'" - Matthew 16:15-17 (NIV)

- d. He, and He _____, is how we can live after dying.

"Jesus said to her, 'I am the resurrection and the life. The one who believes in me will live, even though they die; and whoever lives by believing in me will never die. Do you believe this?' 'Yes, Lord,' she replied, 'I believe that you are the Messiah, the Son of God, who is to come into the world.'" - John 11:25-27 (NIV)

2. The belief Jesus calls us to is not mere _____ acceptance of certain facts or specific truths, but a combination of the mind being convinced, the heart being convicted, the will being changed, and the body being consecrated in allegiance to Jesus (Romans 12:1-2). The all-encompassing nature of this belief is faith (_____).

3. Belief in Jesus cannot be isolated, relegated, or removed from the entirety of our lives. Believing in Jesus _____ and transforms every aspect of our being.

- a. By following Jesus, it is Jesus who does the _____ in us.

"As Jesus was walking beside the Sea of Galilee, he saw two brothers, Simon called Peter and his brother Andrew. They were 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 4:18-20 (NIV84)

- b. We find the real life of our soul by losing "____" life. A disciple is one who yields their autonomy to the authority of Jesus.

"Then Jesus told his disciples, 'If anyone would come after me, let him deny himself and take up his cross and follow me. For whoever would save his life will lose it, but whoever loses his life for my sake will find it. For what will it profit a man if he gains the whole world and forfeits his soul?'" - Matthew 16:24-26 (English Standard Version)

Come and Receive

1. Jesus promises those who respond to His invitation will receive incredible benefits from this relationship. Two key points:

- a. Everything we receive is a _____. Nothing is earned or deserved by us (Romans 6:23; Ephesians 4:7-8).

- b. We must continually guard against prioritizing what we receive from Jesus over _____ that it is Jesus who gives to us.

2. The first thing we receive through faith in Jesus is to become a _____ of God. This is an incredible invitation to a relationship with both God as Father and all His children as our brothers and sisters.

"The true light that gives light to everyone was coming into the world. He was in the world, and though the world was made through him, the world did not recognize him. He came to that which was his own, but his own did not receive him. Yet to all who did receive him, to those who believed in his name, he gave the right to become children of God – children born not of natural descent, nor of human decision or a husband's will, but born of God." - John 1:9-13 (NIV)

3. The Scriptures detailing all else we receive from Jesus are incredible: forgiveness of sin (Acts 10:43), eternal life (1 Timothy 1:16), the Holy Spirit (Acts 2:38), gifts from the Spirit (1 Peter 4:10), a "hundred times as much" whatever we lose in this life (Matthew 19:29), answered prayer (Matthew 21:22), rewards in heaven (Colossians 3:24), a "crown of glory" in eternity (1 Peter 5:4), mercy and grace in our time of need (Hebrews 4:16).

4. The most important truth and reality is that we receive Jesus Himself and His _____ to us (Matthew 11:28-30).