

Sunday, May 14, 2017

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## Both Extravagant Grace and Radical Discipleship?

Luke 5:1–11

(black Bibles page 860; Children's Bibles page 1261)

Question: If you were discipled by Jesus Himself, in the flesh, *now*... what do you think it would be like?

Review from last week:

If you are a believer, you are united to Christ. Simply put, this means two things:

- (1) You are in Christ! (example: Philippians 3:9). You are safe and secure, given everything you need.
  
- (2) Christ is in you! (examples: Ephesians 3:16–17; Galatians 2:20) Christ dwells in you even now, empowering you and giving you life. So it's not merely that Christ did something *for* you, but that He is *in* you.

Meet Gretchen and Devin!

- Do they both sound right? (Or wrong?)

Jesus calls disciples in Luke 5:1–11:

- Listen for the seeds of both extravagant grace (5:6, 10) and radical discipleship (5:10–11).
  
- Where can radical discipleship go wrong? The Kenyan marathon runner illustration -- when Jesus is impossible to keep up with!

- Where can extravagant grace go wrong? The hammock illustration: when you sway in the cool breeze resting... and ignoring Jesus' voice.

- What do both errors have in common? In neither illustration are you *with* Christ!

Back to Union with Christ:

- Did Jesus talk about this? Yes, "Abide in me." The Vine and the Branches in John 15. (Next week!)
  
- But "Follow me" is the beginning of the topic of Union with Christ! It starts with follow me, come with me. But once Jesus' mission becomes clear, with an atoning death *for me* and the pouring out of the Holy Spirit, then He can be *in* me, and I in Him.

To the Supper. Both extravagant grace and radical discipleship? Yes! The body and the blood convey both messages perfectly.

RECOMMENDED BOOK: *Union with Christ* by Rankin Wilbourne. Very insightful and easy to read.