

We are looking at areas of growth and maturity for a Jesus Follower.

Today, look at this piece of the puzzle:

**A growing and maturing awareness of becoming more like Jesus in the way they relate to God and people**

WWJD has become a trendy acronym in the church; we see it on necklaces, rings, bracelets, shirts, etc. It stands for, "What Would Jesus Do." As Jesus Followers, we need to take time to think about our attitudes and actions from God's perspective. We need to live our lives through God's filters. As disciples of Christ, we need to go beyond theoretical concepts of who Jesus was and how He lived and progress to the place that we are choosing to act like Jesus in our attitudes and actions. Biblical discipleship teaches people the principles of Jesus so that they can adjust the procedures of their life to line up with them.

The whole foundation of Jesus' life was servanthood. He served God obediently and therefore served others as a result. We can't live like Christ if we don't serve.

**Matthew 20:26-28** *Not so with you. Instead, whoever wants to become great among you must be your servant, and whoever wants to be first must be your slave--as the Son of Man did not come to be served, but to serve, and to give his life as a ransom for many.*

Jesus made the time to connect with God. Life can get very busy and alone time with God can get squeezed out by many things. We must make the time to connect with the Father like Jesus did.

**Luke 5:16** *But Jesus often withdrew to lonely places and prayed.*

When Jesus prayed this prayer, He was facing His arrest, torture, and crucifixion. Even in the face of incredible turmoil and inevitable pain, He chose God's will over His will. We need to embrace God's will over our own convenience and comfort.

**Luke 22:42** *Father, if you are willing, take this cup from me; yet not my will, but yours be done.*

As Jesus was hanging on the cross, He forgave those who were crucifying Him. Those people didn't deserve to be forgiven, and most of them didn't want to be forgiven. Jesus showed us what true forgiveness is.

**Luke 23:34** *Jesus said, "Father, forgive them, for they do not know what they are doing."*

Jesus ran His speech and His actions through God's filters. We need to take the time to allow God to approve of what we say and how we say it before we let it come out of our mouths.

**John 12:49** *For I did not speak of my own accord, but the Father who sent me commanded me what to say and how to say it.*

Just as Christ has accepted us amid our imperfections, we need to accept others. Acceptance of a person doesn't mean you condone their behavior. Jesus received people that others had pushed away because He could see them through God's eyes.

**Romans 15:7** *Accept one another, then, just as Christ accepted you, in order to bring praise to God.*

Christ lived a life of love. Not just a love that was a warm fuzzy emotion but a love that expressed itself through His actions. We need to love like Christ... love that is sacrificial.

**Ephesians 5:2** *and live a life of love, just as Christ loved us and gave himself up for us as a fragrant offering and sacrifice to God.*

Jesus had the "right" to take up a position of authority. He could have demanded others to serve Him. He could have walked in arrogant pride, but He chose to be a servant.

**Philippians 2:5-7** *Your attitude should be the same as that of Christ Jesus: Who, being in very nature God, did not consider equality with God something to be grasped, made himself nothing, taking the very nature of a servant, being made in human likeness.*

Striving to become more like Jesus in how we relate to God and people should be a byproduct of our relationship with Him. As a Jesus Follower, it is not an option but a command.

**1 John 2:6** *Whoever claims to live in him must walk as Jesus did*

### **Hale Pule Question**

**As you ponder the verses above, what area(s) do you sense the Father wants to work on in your life right now so you can more reflect the attitude(s) of Jesus?**