

Following Jesus

Study Guide – Know and Trust the Father

Main Idea: Jesus consistently reminds his followers that the Father sent him into this world and that he lives in complete dependence upon the Father.

Living like Jesus: We can imitate Jesus by knowing and trusting the Father ourselves. This means more than just knowing about God. This includes a personal relationship with our heavenly Father.

Key Scriptures: Here are some examples of how Jesus trusted the Father:

- Sent by the Father (John 4:34; 5:24, 37-38; 6:29, 32-33, 57; 7:28, 33; 8:16, 29, 42; 10:36; 12:49; 14:24)
- Doing the work of the Father (John 4:34; 5:17-23, 36; 6:40; 14:11-12)
- Knows the Father (Matt. 11:25-27; John 7:29; 8:55; 10:15; 17:25-26)
- Speaks the Father's message (John 8:28; 12:49-50; 15:15)
- Pleases the Father (John 8:29)
- Honors the Father (John 8:49)
- Is one with the Father (John 10:30, 38; 14:7, 9-10, 20; 16:15)
- Prays to the Father (John 17)
- Obeys the Father (Matt. 12:50; 26:39; John 6:38; 8:29; 14:31; 15:10; Heb. 3:2, 6)
- His authority given by the Father and limited by the Father (John 3:35; Mark 10:40)
- Imitates his Father (John 5:19, 30)
- Trusted the Father during difficult times (Matt. 4:1-11; 26:39, 42)

Discussion Questions:

1. In some ways, Jesus' relationship with the Father was unique so that it cannot be imitated. But how can we imitate Jesus in trusting the Father? What do you see in his relationship to the Father that should be your experience also?
2. In what ways does knowing God differ from merely knowing about God?
3. What are some specific situations where you find it extremely difficult to trust the Father?
4. What do you need prayer about at this point in your life?
5. What are some rewards and blessings for knowing and trusting the Father?