

Key References:

John 12:26 (ESV) - If anyone serves me, he must follow me; and where I am, there will my servant be also. If anyone serves me, the Father will honor him.

Romans 8:29 (ESV) - For those whom he foreknew he also predestined to be conformed to the image of his Son, in order that he might be the firstborn among many brothers.

1 John 3:2 (ESV) - Beloved, we are God's children now, and what we will be has not yet appeared; but we know that when he appears we shall be like him, because we shall see him as he is.

2 Corinthians 3:16–18 (ESV) - But when one turns to the Lord, the veil is removed. ¹⁷ Now the Lord is the Spirit, and where the Spirit of the Lord is, there is freedom. ¹⁸ And we all, with unveiled face, beholding the glory of the Lord, are being transformed into the same image from one degree of glory to another. For this comes from the Lord who is the Spirit.

John 14:15–16 (ESV) - "If you love me, you will keep my commandments. ¹⁶ And I will ask the Father, and he will give you another Helper, to be with you forever,

John 14:21 (ESV) - Whoever has my commandments and keeps them, he it is who loves me. And he who loves me will be loved by my Father, and I will love him and manifest myself to him."

1 John 2:2–3 (ESV) - He is the propitiation for our sins, and not for ours only but also for the sins of the whole world. ³ And by this we know that we have come to know him, if we keep his commandments.

At the beginning of the sermon Andy quoted Tim Mackie who said; "The moment you get comfortable with Jesus is the moment you stopped listening to what he says." What do you think about that quote?

1 - JESUS CAME TO BE FOLLOWED

Read John 12:26. What is the difference between being a fan compared to a follower of Jesus?

Can you think of a time in your life when you had to follow Jesus through a life discission? In what other ways must we actively be following Jesus?

Jesus says, "where I am, there my servant is also." What do you think the outworking of that is for us here today? Where would Jesus be today?

2 - HE CAME TO CONFORM US TO HIS IMAGE

Read Romans 8:29. What does it mean to be "conformed to the image"?

Read 1 John 3:2. It explains that when we see Jesus fully we will become like him at resurrection. **But, how can we behold Jesus today, and how does that transform us now?** Read 2 Corinthians 3:16-18. **How does this expand this idea of transformation?**

Reality check: in what ways is the western church good / bad at stepping into this transformed image? What about ourselves personally?

3 - HE CAME THAT WE WOULD OBEY HIS WORD

From memory what do you think are the hardest teachings from Jesus to obey? Why do we find them difficult to follow?

Read John 14:12-24. In verse 15, 21, 23 & 24 Jesus repeats the connection between loving him and keeping his words & commandments. Why does Jesus repeat himself? How can we understand this passage knowing we are still in process on sanctification and imperfect?

Read 1 John 2:1-6. How does this passage shed further light on this?

4 - JESUS CAME SO THAT WE WOULD LOVE HIM

On Sunday, Andy said it would be dangerous to try and follow, conform to, and obey Jesus without first doing it from a place of love, Jesus as well uses "love" as a basis for doing these things. Why would it be dangerous to do this, a step into our new series, without this as our foundation?