

not a fan.

Twenty times in the New Testament, Jesus issued a compelling and challenging invitation to Follow Him. He's not interested in mere fans. He doesn't want enthusiastic admirers. He wants Completely Committed Followers.

THE PATH

Who do you Worship? | April 13, 2014

Cheer • /CHI(ə)r/ • verb

- 1.
- 2.

All of us cheer for something ... What or who do you CHEER for with great loyalty and enthusiasm?

What's the coolest event you've ever been to that you were able to cheer on your favorite team or person?

Worship could be best described as _____ for something/someone.

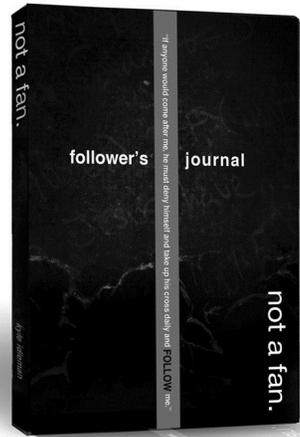
Compare these moments of cheering ...

"Hosanna to the Son of David!" "Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord!" "Hosanna in the highest heaven!"
Matthew 21:9 NIV

"Which of the two do you want me to release to you?" asked the governor. "Barabbas," they answered. "What shall I do, then, with Jesus who is called the Messiah?" Pilate asked. They all answered, "Crucify him!" "Why? What crime has he committed?" asked Pilate. But they shouted all the louder, "Crucify him!"
Matthew 27:21-23 NIV

How would you describe your personal worship?

Is there anything that needs to improve or change?



This 6 week video study by Kyle Idleman utilizes a 42 day devotional journal to enhance your journey from fan to follower.

Journals are available for just \$7 each.

Sign up at the Welcome Center today!

A limited number of the book on which the study is based is also available for \$9 each. The book is an optional supplement to our study.



Contact Pastor Mike with questions
mike@flushingcommunity.org

Boost

Wednesdays | 6:30-8:00pm
April 23-May 28



Miss Something? That's okay!
You can download this sermon at flushingcommunity.org



What is Lent? *The 40 day period of preparation before the celebration of the resurrection of Christ. The 40 days goes along with Jesus' 40 day temptation!*

Day #35: April 14 - Monday

Purpose

READ: John 11:43-57, Matthew 20:17-19, John 10:17-18, John 15:13

When Jesus headed to Jerusalem this week, He knew exactly what He was doing. It was time for the fulfillment of His purpose. He was completely aware of the Jewish religious leaders' conspiracy to trap Him, and ultimately kill him. They were jealous of the attention he garnered, and most did not like the message He delivered, as it threatened their authority and exposed their hypocrisy. Everything Jesus does this week is intentional, from entering the "danger zone" of Jerusalem, to "sparring" with the religious leaders, to washing His disciples' feet, to Calvary. Everything. Jesus was not captured or taken against His will. Jesus was not murdered or martyred. He was deliberately pursuing his mission. His life was not taken. He laid it down willingly.

- ° How does Jesus' intentionality this week impact you?
- ° If an account of your life were written, what kind of intentions would we observe?
- ° Do you believe that God has given you a purpose?
- ° Everyone lives with purpose, what is yours?

Day #36: April 15 - Tuesday

Authority

READ: Matthew 21:12-17, Mark 11:18, Matt 21:23-27, Luke 19:47-48

During Jesus' last week, He spent His days in one of his favorite places, doing one of His favorite things: teaching in the temple courts. It's fascinating to read the accounts of holy week in the Gospels. Jesus doesn't shrink from His mission despite the growing tensions. He doesn't isolate Himself from everything and everyone, brooding in self-pity, dreading His impending betrayal and suffering. On the contrary: He is more bold, more direct, more authoritative. He stayed in the moment and on mission, healing and teaching with divine authority.

- ° Imagine that you were in Jerusalem at the time of these accounts; would you be more likely to identify with the defenders of the institutions or the people hanging on Jesus' words?
- ° Jesus' teaching & healing brought mixed reactions: praise & indignation. What is your response to Jesus?
- ° What would you be doing if you knew this week was your last? Would you be at peace or panicked?

Day #37: April 16 - Wednesday

Scheming

READ: Matthew 22:15-22, Matthew 26:1-5, Luke 21:37-22:6

As Jesus taught in the temple courts this week, two distinct groups are revealed: the humble and the proud. The humble came to worship, learn or be healed. The proud gathered to criticize and scheme. They plotted for ways to trap Jesus in His words. Like wolves, they were ready to pounce and tear Him apart if He said the wrong thing. "But Jesus, knowing their evil intent..." deftly answered the question and avoided their trap. Amazed, they left Him until a more opportune time.

Their opportunity came knocking when Judas Iscariot, one of the Twelve, approached them, offering inside information on when they could arrest Jesus without causing a scene.

- ° Jesus' wisdom and avoidance of the traps set for Him seem effortless. Are there circumstances in your life right now that need wisdom? Whose wisdom are you relying on? Jesus' or your own?
- ° Picture an individual from the two groups mentioned above (the humble listeners and the proud schemers), what body posture do you imagine them taking?
- ° What is the posture of your heart when it comes to the person of Jesus, does it look like one of the people you imagined?

Day #38: April 17 - Thursday

The Final Moments

READ: John 13:2-5, 12-17; Mark 14:17-26; Matthew 26:36-46; John 18

At this, His last Passover celebration before His crucifixion, Jesus did some very unexpected things. First, he took on the role of a servant to wash the disciples' feet, since none of them were willing to do it. Next, Jesus took something very old, very traditional, very familiar... and gave it new meaning. The Passover Seder has its own liturgy and ritual and had been commemorated the same way for generations. He took the bread and the 3rd cup of the 4 cups of wine and gave them new significance, which would not be understood until later. Judas left the Upper Room and Jesus relocated to a garden with his disciples where He prayed. Judas arrived with a detachment of soldiers who arrested Jesus, bound Him like a criminal and brought Him before the Jewish religious leaders. Through the night, they subjected Him to an illegal trial that included false witness, He was dragged back and forth between the High Priest, Herod and Pilate, looking for someone with authority to authorize his execution. Finally, Pilate leaves it to the people to decide. They elect to release Barabbas and crucify Jesus.

- ° How does Jesus display his authority through the Passover celebration?
- ° Jesus' prayer in the garden takes place after a ritualized meal that uses cups of wine as symbolic markers in the story of God's redemption of Israel from slavery. How does Jesus' prayer in Matthew 26 change your understanding of His mission?
- ° Jesus refused to exercise any of His 'rights' through this travesty, do you see this as weakness, authority or something else?

Day #39: April 18 - Friday

The Crucifixion

READ: Matthew 27:27-65, Psalm 22, Hebrews 10:19-22

Today, Jesus was beaten, mocked, spit at, screamed at, sentenced to death and paraded through the streets. Then, they nailed the Lamb of God to a Roman cross.

While He hung on the cross, darkness fell. When He died, the earth shook. The great curtain in the temple ripped in two from top to bottom, opening up the way to the Most Holy Place, the earthly dwelling place of God's presence (See Exodus 26).

- ° This account is familiar for most and difficult for all, what new things do you see? How do those things challenge your previous understanding?
- ° Jesus died, but was He killed?
- ° What does the tearing of the curtain symbolize for people in general, what does it mean for you personally?

Day #40: April 19 - Saturday

The Day After

READ: John 3:16-17; Philippians 2:5-11; Romans 8:31-39; Ephesians 3:14-21

The disciples are exhausted, distraught, and confused. The smug religious leaders are congratulating themselves. They don't know that tomorrow, the tomb will be empty.

They don't know that the battle has been won, that our debt has been paid, that nothing will ever be the same.

- ° Choose a phrase from today's scriptures to meditate on as you prepare to celebrate the Resurrection tomorrow.

Easter Celebrations Sunday, April 20!!

Join us at 9:30 and 11:00!