Welcome to the Family



Brian and Teresa Hatley

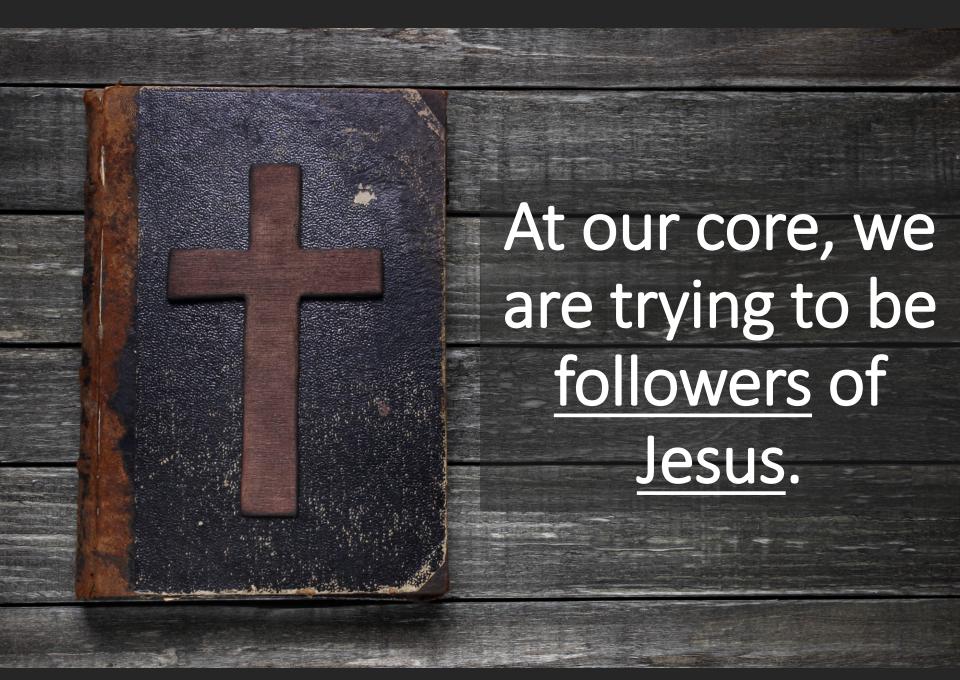
Summer Activities



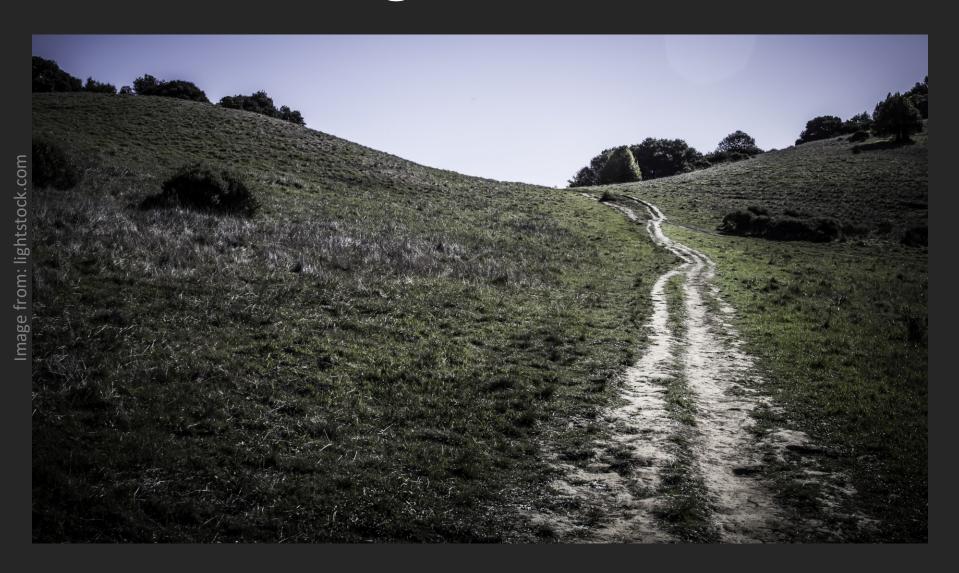
Summer Series, VBS, Camp



Image from: dollarphotoclub.com



The Challenge of Commitment

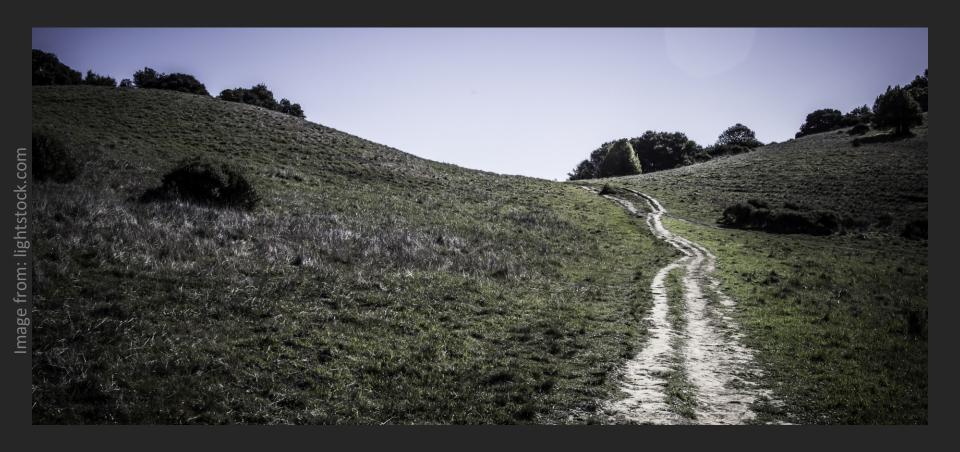


Hiroo Onoda



No Surrender

The Challenge of Commitment



Our main passage for this morning:
Luke 9:57-62

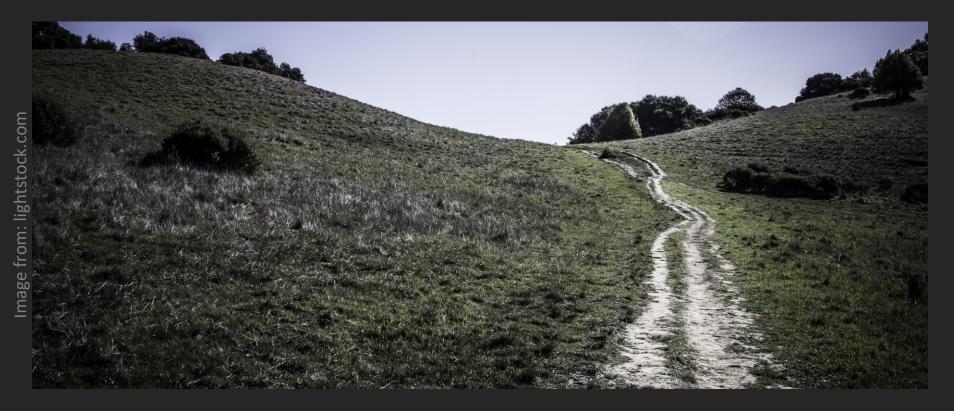
- ⁵⁷ As they were going along the road, someone said to Him, "I will follow You wherever You go."
- ⁵⁸ And Jesus said to him, "The foxes have holes and the birds of the air *have* nests, but the Son of Man has nowhere to lay His head."

*All Scriptures from 1995 New American Standard

- ⁵⁹ And He said to another, "Follow Me." But he said, "Lord, permit me first to go and bury my father."
- ⁶⁰ But He said to him, "Allow the dead to bury their own dead; but as for you, go and proclaim everywhere the kingdom of God."

- ⁶¹ Another also said, "I will follow You, Lord; but first permit me to say goodbye to those at home."
- ⁶² But Jesus said to him, "No one, after putting his hand to the plow and looking back, is fit for the kingdom of God."

What's Behind These Conversations?



➤ A passage that hangs over this section: Luke 9:23-25

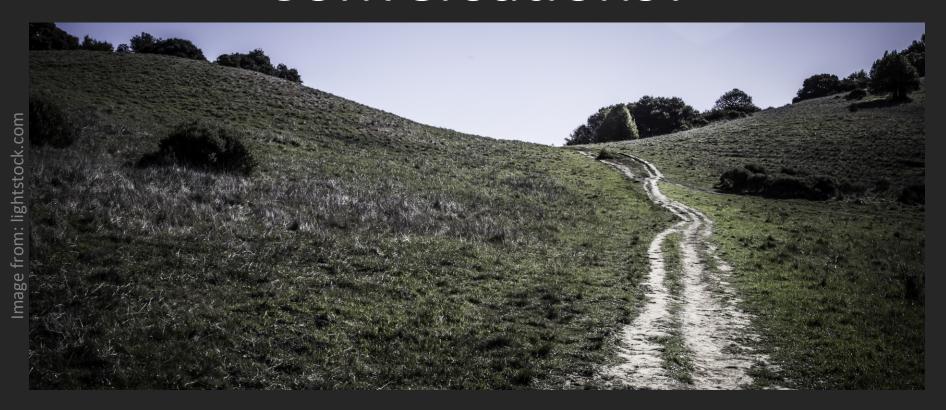
Luke 9:23-25

²³ And He was saying to *them* all, "If anyone wishes to come after Me, he must deny himself, and take up his cross daily and follow Me.

Luke 9:23-25

- ²⁴ For whoever wishes to save his life will lose it, but whoever loses his life for My sake, he is the one who will save it.
- ²⁵ For what is a man profited if he gains the whole world, and loses or forfeits himself?

What's Behind These Conversations?



Jesus calls us to give Him our entire lives.

Matthew 6:24

²⁴ "No one can serve two masters; for either he will hate the one and love the other, or he will be devoted to one and despise the other. You cannot serve God and wealth.

Matthew 10:32-33

- ³² "Therefore everyone who confesses Me before men, I will also confess him before My Father who is in heaven.
- ³³ But whoever denies Me before men, I will also deny him before My Father who is in heaven.

Luke 14:26-27

- ²⁶ "If anyone comes to Me, and does not hate his own father and mother and wife and children and brothers and sisters, yes, and even his own life, he cannot be My disciple.
- ²⁷ Whoever does not carry his own cross and come after Me cannot be My disciple.

Luke 14:33

³³ So then, none of you can be My disciple who does not give up all his own possessions.

- ⁵⁷ As they were going along the road, someone said to Him, "I will follow You wherever You go."
- ⁵⁸ And Jesus said to him, "The foxes have holes and the birds of the air *have* nests, but the Son of Man has nowhere to lay His head."

What's Behind These Conversations?



Following Jesus means a commitment to <u>sacrifice</u>,

- ⁵⁹ And He said to another, "Follow Me." But he said, "Lord, permit me first to go and bury my father."
- ⁶⁰ But He said to him, "Allow the dead to bury their own dead; but as for you, go and proclaim everywhere the kingdom of God."

What's Behind These Conversations?



Following Jesus means a commitment to <u>sacrifice</u>, trust,

- ⁶¹ Another also said, "I will follow You, Lord; but first permit me to say goodbye to those at home."
- ⁶² But Jesus said to him, "No one, after putting his hand to the plow and looking back, is fit for the kingdom of God."

What's Behind These Conversations?



Following Jesus means a commitment to sacrifice,

trust,

and leaving lesser things behind.

Luke 18:28-30

²⁸ Peter said, "Behold, we have left our own *homes* and followed You."

Luke 18:28-30

- ²⁹ And He said to them, "Truly I say to you, there is no one who has left house or wife or brothers or parents or children, for the sake of the kingdom of God,
- ³⁰ who will not receive many times as much at this time and in the age to come, eternal life."

Making It Part of Us



We must not let others' <u>lack</u> of commitment <u>hold</u> us back.

Making It Part of Us



Being baptized into Christ is the best <u>life</u> change we ever make!

Matthew 28:18-20

- ¹⁹ Go therefore and make disciples of all the nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and the Son and the Holy Spirit,
- ²⁰ teaching them to observe all that I commanded you; and lo, I am with you always, even to the end of the age."

Making It Part of Us



If you have already been baptized: are you <u>really following</u> Jesus?

What Must I Do To Be Saved?

Hear

• Learn about Christ (Rom. 10:17)

Believe

• Believe in Christ (John 8:24)

Repent

• Commit to Follow Christ (Acts 2:38)

Confess

• Confess your faith (Romans 10:9-10)

Be Baptized

Baptism into Christ (Acts 2:38, Rom 6:3-4)

James 5:16

¹⁶ Therefore, confess your sins to one another, and <u>pray for one another</u> so that you may be healed. The effective prayer of a righteous man can accomplish much.