

Family Night- Taking the TIME to Connect!

**FOLLOW ME!**

**Memory Verse:** Luke 9:23 *Then he said to them all: "Whoever wants to be my disciple must deny themselves and take up their cross daily and follow me.*

**Open with Prayer:** Have someone from your family to open up your time together asking the Lord to help everyone in the family to understand more about Him through this time together.

**Activity 1:** FOLLOW your LEADER (Good for younger children)

- Prep Needed- No Prep
- Summary- You will follow what has your focus and attention

**Summary:** Encourage your child to follow your lead as you exercise together. Try touching toes, running in place, swinging your arms, and stretching to the ceiling. Exercise to music, pass a ball back and forth, or twirl a long ribbon in the air. For a change, let your child be the leader and you follow his example.

**Activity 2:** Are you willing to FOLLOW?

**Summary:** Gather your family and ask them to follow you. Using some type of transportation or a combination of them (ex. foot, bike, car, or other means) lead your family on a journey to one of your favorite ice cream spots or something similar. You can choose to print a map to follow, enter the address in the GPS or just lead them on the adventure. Encourage them to be aware of things going on around them on the way to your destination. You will end your journey at a family hotspot and enjoy discussing the cost of following Jesus.

**Read and discuss:** Matt 4:18-25 What did each of these men do when Jesus called out to them? How much time did it take them to follow? What were they willing to give up? Did they have any idea what was going to happen if they followed Jesus? Do you know what God has in store for you tomorrow? What does God ask for us to do? Did you know where you were going when I asked you to follow me? Was there anything along the journey that could have been difficult?

**Main Point:** Follow Christ no matter what the cost, He knows what is best for you.

The adventure today ended in a wonderful place we all love but there were a lot of unknowns between the starting point and the ending point. Anything could have happened during our journey but you continued to follow me because you trusted and believed me. In a similar way the disciples did not know what to expect but they were willing to follow Christ completely. The result of following Christ with our lives leads to a sweet reward, eternal life with Him in Heaven. Our lives will still be filled with difficulties but God has already mapped out the perfect plan and knows what we need along the way. FOLLOW HIM.

**Take Away:** God's Plan is PERFECT, Follow HIM!

**Going Deeper:** For additional resources on those that have followed Christ no matter what the cost take a look at [www.persecution.com](http://www.persecution.com). Other great resources on Christian Martyr's are the Jesus Freak books by D.C. Talk.