



Following the Leader ***Dan Jenkins***

I remember a game I played as a child, but I am not sure what it was called. I think it was called “Follow the Leader,” where one child became the leader and whatever he did had to be exactly duplicated in all those other children who were following the leader. If he jumped, they jumped. If he turned in a circle, they turned in a circle. If he walked backwards, they walked backwards. If he did all three in an immediate sequence, they did all three. Following the Leader

There is serious application of this game in the lives of those early Christians. Paul came to Thessalonica as part of the “Macedonian Call” and went first to Philippi and then to Thessalonica. He was only there three weeks before tremendous persecution forced him to leave. He came back there often for several years. In his first letter to that church, Paul spoke of what had happened as the church began. “And you became followers of us and of the Lord, having received the word in much affliction, with joy of the Holy Spirit” (1 Thess. 1:6).

For the first time, these people in Macedonia met a follower of Jesus. He taught them, and they saw the way he lived what he taught. They followed him. They had worshiped images made by the hands of mortals which were embellished with gold and precious stones. Paul taught them about the One who created these very stones, and they “...turned to God from idols to serve the living and true God” (1 Thess. 1:9).

What they had seen and heard from the apostle caused them to follow him. Look at verse 6 again. They followed Paul, but he taught them more. They became followers of Paul and “of the Lord.” The apostle diverted their focus from him and focused it on the Lord, the One who really matters.

The Greek word for “follower” (mimos) became a word we commonly use today. They saw the folly of idolatry and began to “mimic” Paul and Jesus. Paul was not seeking to become an iconic apostolic hero. He taught them what he taught those in Corinth. “Imitate (mimos) me just as I also imitate Christ” (1 Cor. 11:1). He is the One to follow!

Paul described the lives of these new Christians in this way. “For you, brethren, became imitators of the churches of God which are in Judea in Christ Jesus” (1 Thess. 2:14). I will never forget how this verse was taught to the people of Easter Island. Josh Blackmer said, “We have come to this island to ask the people to become followers of ‘churches of God which are in’ the Bible. The Bible describes that church, and Jesus wants us to read about it and be followers of the Lord as seen in that church.”

Read about the Lord. Then become one who mimics the One who really matters!

Congregational News & Notes

Prayer Requested

Members

Mary Bolen, Luther & Jo Merritt
Nadine McDonald,
Sandra Epperson, Sue Harris
Fredie Stewart, Cindy Kidder,
Lisa Dukes, Betty Mosely,
Teriyaki Anderson,
James Morris, Troyce Taylor,
Pearl Johnson, Paula Wadley,
Judy Ellis, Jerry Crabb,
Karen Chance
Gaylon & Betty Cooper,
Sammy & Shirley Puckett,
Jerry Butcher

Friends & Family

Horace Yearwood, Gleen Lovell,
Beverly Martindale,
Diane Hubbard, Kyle Bess
Brandi Rogers, Corey Allen
Kenton Lancaster, Archie Hardy,
Ruby Malone, Melissa Henson
Caraline Rogers, Justin Puckett,
Jane Washington, Joyce Pack

Today's Sermons

AM - Qualities of a Good
Follower
Matthew 4:19

PM - What Is Right with the
Church - The Future
Ephesians 5:26-27

Happenings

South Jackson

September 20

Men's Business Meeting
following AM Services

October 25-28

Gospel Meeting with
Bruce Hatcher

October 31

Ladies Retreat
Pinson Mounds
See bulletin board for
more information

Cards to Send

Betty Mosely
52 Auburndale Cove
Jackson, TN 38305

Troyce & Leslie Taylor
80 Fawn Ridge Road
Jackson, TN 38305

Weekly Record

Bible Class	52/6
AM Worship	80/110
PM Worship	50/81
Wed Bible Study	50/10
Contribution	5166
Budget	3600

Those Privileged to Serve

Sept 20 - AM WORSHIP

Lead Singing: John Smith
Read Scripture:
Costel Ghimpu
Opening Prayer:
Mike Wages
Sermon: Ray Pack
Closing Prayer: Jeff Dove
Communion: Paul Hatcher
Contribution:
Jeff Bliss

PM WORSHIP

Lead Singing: Paul Hatcher
Opening Prayer:
Greg Long
Sermon: Ray Pack
Closing Prayer: Joe Venable
Communion: Mike Wages

Sept 23 - WED BIBLE STUDY

Lead Singing: Paul Hatcher
Opening Prayer:
Joe Venable
Devo - Ronald Clouse

Sept 27 - AM WORSHIP

Lead Singing: Mike Wages
Read Scripture:
Charlie Richardson
Opening Prayer:
Joe Venable
Sermon: Ray Pack
Closing Prayer: Carleton Kidder
Communion: Eddie Anderson
Contribution:
Ronald Clouse

PM WORSHIP

Lead Singing: Ray Pack
Opening Prayer:
Mike Wages
Sermon: Singing Night
Closing Prayer: Greg Long
Communion: Paul Hatcher

Sept 30 - WED BIBLE STUDY

Lead Singing: Ray Pack
Opening Prayer:
Paul Hatcher
Devo - Mike Wages

South Jackson Church of Christ
845 Highway 18
Medon, TN
(731) 424-9721
Minister: Ray Pack
rpac119@gmail.com
(731) 437-9501

Service Times

Gospel of Christ - WBBJ	5:00 AM
Sunday Bible Class	9:30 AM
Sunday AM Worship	10:30 AM
Sunday PM Worship	5:00 PM
Midweek Bible Study	6:30 PM