



“The Benefits”
Pastor Tyler Scott
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Follow Jesus as closely as possible – one day at a time – and you will experience and enjoy some profound (and practical!) benefits. That’s the big idea this week.

Now let’s unpack some of these amazing benefits!

Warm It Up:

What are some of your favorite benefits to being a Christ follower?

Share a story about when you benefitted from someone else’s humility, kindness or generosity.

Talk It Over:

1. **Read Mark 10:32-45.** Now just look at **v32**, “They were on their way up to Jerusalem, with Jesus leading the way, and the disciples were astonished, while those who followed were afraid.”
 - a. What stands out to you from this verse?
 - b. Tyler mentioned the first benefit to following Jesus closely is that we are often astonished, not afraid. Why do you think the disciples were astonished...yet those further behind were afraid? *Share your thoughts, and personal example, re: these statements:*
 - i. Our PERSPECTIVE is based on our PROXIMITY to Jesus
 - ii. More DRIFT from Jesus = more FEAR on our journey
 - iii. ABIDING in Jesus = our perspective BROADENS & BRIGHTENS
2. The second benefit to following Jesus closely is this: “we learn to respond to ridiculous things with humility and kindness.”
 - a. What is ridiculous about the request of James and John in this passage?
 - b. Jesus responds with humility and kindness: “What do you want me to do for you?”
 - c. What kinds of “ridiculous” things – i.e people, questions, requests, situations, circumstances, challenges, etc. – do we have to face in life?

- i. Share a recent example of something “ridiculous” that you had to respond to. Describe how you responded, and what you learned from it...in light of Jesus’ humility and kindness here.
 - ii. **Romans 2:4** says the “kindness of God” is what leads to repentance. Share an example where you have seen that happen.
 - iii. Why is humility so attractive? Who is someone you know that is humble? Describe their humility, and why you appreciate it.
 - iv. Have someone find (iTunes or the internet?) Tim McGraw’s country song “Humble and Kind,” and play it out loud for your group. It’s a 4 minute song...but it’ll be time well spent!
 - 1. What is your favorite lyric from the song, and why?
 - 2. Where do you need more humility and kindness?
- 3. The third benefit of following Jesus closely is that we become less selfish, and more of a servant.
 - a. Describe several areas in life where selfishness is problematic, and explain why.
 - b. Describe several areas in life where being a servant is advantageous, and explain why.
 - c. Jesus does NOT condemn the disciples’ desire for greatness, or their ambition. Instead, he redirects it for godly purposes. Why do you think this is so significant?
 - i. Describe healthy and unhealthy desires for greatness...as well as healthy and unhealthy ambition. (Be as specific as you can be☺!)
 - d. How would your HOME LIFE be different/better if you were more of a servant? What is one way you could be more of a servant at home?
 - e. How would your WORK LIFE be different if you were more of a servant? What is one thing you could do to serve your colleagues at work?
 - f. How would your FRIENDSHIPS be different if you were more of a servant? What is one way you could serve your friends more effectively?
- 4. Which of these benefits – being astonished/amazed more than being afraid; responding to ridiculous things with humility and kindness; or becoming less selfish and more of a servant – is most attractive to you right now, and why?

Pray It Out

Jesus asks his followers here an important question: “What do you want me to do for you?” Imagine that Jesus comes to you and asks you that question right now...how would you honestly answer him?

Pray for each other after everyone shares their requests.