

Be a
DISCIPLE

Mitchell Berean Church

Come and See (John 1:39)

Follow Me (John 1:43)

Become a Fisher of People (Matt 4:19)

Go Make Disciples (Matt 28:19)

Week 6 - You Need to Be Sincere

In this campaign we are learning about the 4 chairs of Discipleship –

Chair 1 - Come and See (John 1:39)

Chair 2 - Follow Me (John 1:43)

Chair 3 - Become a Fisher of People (Matt 4:19)

Chair 4 - Go Make Disciples (Matthew 28:19)

As Disciples of Jesus we are asking these 2 questions throughout this campaign:

What chair are you in?

What chair do you need to move towards?

Our lessons throughout these eight weeks will focus on the Eight Attitudes we need to have in order to GROW in our relationship with God.

Matthew 5:8
Blessed are the pure in heart,
For they will see God.

This week we look at the sixth attitude that puts us in a position to be blessed by God. The sixth attitude that puts us in a position to be blessed by God is to recognize that You Need to Be Sincere.

The definition of Sincerity is “Having a Fidelity to the Truth.”

If we don't come to God with a sincere heart, we're not going to see him because He knows our hearts and we're going to be blinded from seeing the truth.

Jesus is the master at revealing our hearts and motives, because he is able to see the depths of our hearts clearly.

Have someone read these verses:

Luke 18:18-30

Once a religious leader asked Jesus this question: "Good Teacher, what should I do to inherit eternal life?" "Why do you call me good?" Jesus asked him. "Only God is truly good. But to answer your question, you know the commandments: 'You must not commit adultery. You must not murder. You must not steal. You must not testify falsely. Honor your father and mother.' The man replied, 'I've obeyed all these commandments since I was young.'" When Jesus heard his answer, he said, "There is still one thing you haven't done. Sell all your possessions and give the money to the poor, and you will have treasure in heaven. Then come, follow me." But when the man heard this he became very sad, for he was very rich. When Jesus saw this, he said, "How hard it is for the rich to enter the Kingdom of God! In fact, it is easier for a camel to go through the eye of a needle than for a rich person to enter the Kingdom of God!" Those who heard this said, "Then who in the world can be saved?" He replied, "What is impossible for people is possible with God." Peter said, "We've left our homes to follow you." "Yes," Jesus replied, "and I assure you that everyone who has given up house or wife or brothers or parents or children, for the sake of the Kingdom of God, will be repaid many times over in this life, and will have eternal life in the world to come."

Jesus exposed the insincerity of the rich young ruler who was content with his self righteousness. His interest in God's kingdom was motivated by self-interest, something that wouldn't cost him anything.

The meaning of the Greek word *eilikrinia* translated "sincerity" is "purity."

In order to come to God, we need to come with a pure and sincere heart looking for truth, not just looking for what will benefit us.

Have someone read these verses:

Jeremiah 17:9

The human heart is the most deceitful of all things, and desperately wicked. Who really knows how bad it is?

Psalms 139:23

Search me, O God, and know my heart; test me and know my anxious thoughts.

Psalms 15:1-2

Who may worship in your sanctuary, Lord? Who may enter your presence on your holy hill? Those who lead blameless lives and do what is right, speaking the truth from sincere hearts.

It is only by having a sincere heart that we can draw near to God and truly grow in our walk with Him.

Questions:

1. Do you remember a time when you did not want to follow through with a commitment because of the cost?
2. In what ways did this lack of sincerity affect your relationship with God and/or others?
3. How does an insincere heart keep us from seeing God?
4. What does it mean to have a sincere heart?
5. What worldly philosophies and selfish motives are evident in an insincere heart?
6. In what ways has God revealed insincerity in your heart?
7. When insincerity has been revealed, how have you addressed it?
8. How can you develop sincerity of heart?
9. Are you willing to sacrifice to be obedient to God even when there is no benefit to you from your immediate actions?

Pray Together

As you pray together tonight, encourage everyone to share a need. As you pray, ask everyone to pray with their hands open with their palms up, as a physical way of showing our need for God's provision and help.

Weekly Challenge:

This week I want you to intentionally evaluate the sincerity of your heart.

- 1. Read your Bible** every day this week and look for examples of sincerity that are talked about in the scripture you read. Look for the truth from God, not just for what will benefit you on your terms.
- 2. Spend time Praying** every day this week. Ask God to reveal what it is that you are holding on to that is preventing you from having a sincere heart.
- 3. Ask the Holy Spirit** to reveal any insincerity within your heart and for help in growing in sincerity in your relationship with God.
- 4. Seek to become a person** who is wholly devoted to God and come before Him with a pure and sincere heart.