

COME, FOLLOW ME

And Jesus said to all, "If anyone would come after me, let him deny himself and take up his cross daily and follow me."

Luke 9:23

REFLECTION

How often do we find ourselves praying for God to be with us and to bless our families, workplaces, studies, projects and endeavour so that things would go smoothly and we would achieve desired results? While there is a place to seek God for His help and be dependent upon Him, there is another side of our seeking after God.

Consider this - how often would we pray that God would show us where He is and what He is doing, and having understood would ask that we could join Him there and participate in His work? Do you pray such prayers? Somehow, the tables are turned when we consider our prayers in this manner. It's not so much about us; it's about God. God and we are still together; however, the focus is not about our wants and needs but it's on Him and his agenda.

In this season of Lent, while it is helpful that we practice fasting and be strengthened in spiritual devotions and disciplines, it is also important for us to be mindful that all these practices lead us towards focusing our attention on God. We learn to put aside our own agenda and take on something greater - God's agenda. We can do so by following after Jesus.

Fasting and following after Jesus are not easy things to do. Yet, both go in tandem just like two sides of the same coin. We don't fast just to be more spiritually disciplined and devoted. The discipline of fasting leads us to follow more closely after Jesus our Lord, to be more like Him and to be with Him wherever He is and is working. It is not just about the act of fasting and following, it also involves one's mind, attitude, will and heart while doing so.

Thus, during this season of Lent, as you spend time fasting and reflecting, do give consideration to your prayers. Ask God to show you where He is and what He is doing. Ask to follow after Him and join Him there.

PRAYER

Lord Jesus Christ, You came to this world to lay down Your life for us all in obedience to Your Father's will. Help

us in this season of Lent to allow You to show us and work in us a devotion that is willing to follow after You all the days of our lives, that we may indeed be Your disciples. For Your kingdom and glory, Amen.

SUPPLICATION

- Thank God for His presence and blessings upon you whenever you call out to Him. In this season of Lent, pray that God would grant you a heart that longs to be where God is. Ask God to open your eyes to see and mind to understand His presence and purpose. It may not be a perfect or ideal picture, but allow the Holy Spirit to show you what God is doing there. Ask God to show how you may be involved in His work. His work is not just out there, but also in you. Allow Him to work in and through you. Ask God to grant you a spirit of humility and willing submission to His purpose and ways.
- Pray for the churches in Singapore that pastors, leaders and members would be God-centred, focusing on what God wants His Church to be and to do. During this season of Lent, let the Church events be Christ-centred where people are drawn to the example of Jesus laying down His will and life for the greater good of mankind. Pray that members would be willing to make room for God to have His will and way in their lives. Pray that God would put in each believer a deep hunger for Him and His word in their lives, to follow after Jesus at all cost and not at one's convenience.
- Pray for many who have yet to know God that during this season the message of Jesus Christ be made known to them. Pray that the call to follow after Christ would be clearly heard and understood and not be rejected. Ask the Lord to raise up a new generation of believers who would be sold out for His kingdom purpose and glory.

If anyone serves me, he must follow me; and where I am, there will my servant be also.

*If anyone serves me,
the Father will honour him."*

Jn.12:26

***If you need any prayer or pastoral care support,
kindly contact the pastoral care team via:***

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