**Follow The Leader – Week 2 (SETS AN EXAMPLE)**

**October 28/29, 2017**

That roller coaster video was pretty funny earlier, wasn’t it? The looks on those people’s faces were priceless! Just by a show of hands, how many of you like roller coasters? How many of you are deathly afraid of roller coasters? Has anyone done one that goes upside down? That’s such a crazy sensation, isn’t it?

**(Leaders Note: Share about your first experience on a roller coaster! Tell them which one and if it was an AMAZING or TERRIFYING experience).**

Well, this series called “Follow The Leader” is all about being a godly leader and what that means for our life. Last week, we talked about how a godly leader SEEKS God with their whole heart. Today, we are going to look at our second THP of the series and the second way to be a godly leader. We’re starting right off with the THP this week…so here we go!

**THP: A godly leader SETS a Christ-like example.**

Now, I’m sure you’ve heard that phrase “set an example” from someone before. My guess is that it has probably come from one main place: your parents! You know, they might say things like, “Set a good example for your brother!” or “Don’t be such a bad example for your sister!” or whatever.

However, here’s one of the issues in telling someone else to “set an example.” It’s probably not going to be very convincing if the person telling you to set an example ISN’T ACTUALLY SETTING AN EXAMPLE THEMSELVES! It would be like a parent telling a child, “Now Bobby…you need to eat your vegetables. They’re good for you!” The child isn’t going to take that very seriously if the mom and dad aren’t eating their vegetables either.

(**Leaders Note: Share a humorous example where you had to set an example for someone…in spite of the fact that you may not have wanted to!)**

As Christians, we believe Jesus was God in human form. That means he was tempted to disobey God just like any of us. Yet, he still wanted to show us how to live by setting an example for his disciples and for us. He didn't just boss his disciples around or think he was "above" doing certain things. He actually washed their dirty feet as an act of service! A true leader doesn’t just say what you should do…a godly leader puts that into action.

We must set an example in both our words and our actions. Colossians 3:17 says: *“And whatever you do, whether in word or deed, do it all in the name of the Lord Jesus, giving thanks to God the Father through him.”*

In order to be a godly leader, we have to live like Jesus…and not just say that we will. Some of you might be saying, “But he’s Jesus! He was perfect! There’s no way that I can do that.” That’s exactly right…you can’t be perfect like him. However, with his help, you can set a Christ-like example with the way you live your life in spite of your imperfection.

Some of your friends don’t go to church and they don’t even know what Jesus is like. However, if they see something different about the way you live your life, they may ask questions. I can guarantee you that if you set a Christ-like example (which will be different than how some of the people around you live), at some point, someone will notice.

We all set the example for someone and we are also watching someone else’s example. I want you to think about whose example you are following. Maybe you’re here and you’re not very familiar with church or you don’t believe in God…or maybe you don’t much about who Jesus Christ is.

**Think about these questions to yourself…are you setting a Christ-like example with the way you’re living your life? Can people actually see that you are a follower of Christ? If you’re here and you’re not a Christian, do you want to live life differently?**

Just like Jesus washing His disciples’ feet and showing them that even He needed to lead by example, I want us to model that kind of life. I think each of you can be a godly leader, but in order to be a Christ-like example (all of us), we’re going to need God’s help and the help of the people around us. That is why this group you are a part of is so important. We need to encourage one another along the way, pray for one another, and talk about the challenges we’re facing. I hope that you’re able to do that today during our small group discussion.

Just like riding a roller coaster for the first time, living out our faith and setting a Christ-like example is risky at first, kind of terrifying/adventurous when you’re on the ride, but after it’s over, you’re really glad you did it! Let’s recap our THP and watch one final challenge from Zach Matchett (5th/6th Grade Pastor at Carmel Campus) and Drew Hall (Westfield Campus Student Pastor)!

**(Leaders Note: Show “Zach & Drew Millennium Force Video”)**

**Remember our THP…in order to be a godly leader, we need to lead by example…a Christ-like example. God will help you! Oh…and ride lots of roller coasters! Let’s pray!**