

# CRINGE

Part 1: Did He Really Just Say That?

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## **A common approach to the hard teachings of Jesus:**

That's not what He really meant!

### **Important Context**

Jesus is on his way to Jerusalem to die for the sins of mankind.

### **Three Cringe Conversations** (*Luke 9:57-62*)

<sup>57</sup> As they were walking along the road, a man said to him, "I will follow you wherever you go."

<sup>58</sup> Jesus replied, "Foxes have holes and birds of the air have nests, but the Son of Man has no place to lay his head."

**Underlying issue:** It's easy to say "I will follow."

**Truth:** There is a cost to following Jesus.

**Application:** You must count the cost before you commit.

**Reward:** The reward for following Jesus is eternal.

<sup>59</sup> He said to another man, "Follow me."

But the man replied, "Lord, first let me go and bury my father."

<sup>60</sup> Jesus said to him, "Let the dead bury their own dead, but you go and proclaim the kingdom of God."

**Underlying statement:** I want to follow, but first...

**Truth:** You must be a follower of Jesus first and foremost.

Every other role is subservient to following Jesus.

**Application:** We must allow Jesus to define our priorities.

<sup>61</sup> Still another said, "I will follow you, Lord; but first let me go back and say good-by to my family."

<sup>62</sup> Jesus replied, "No one who puts his hand to the plow and looks back is fit for service in the kingdom of God."

**Underlying excuse:** I will follow when the people in my life  
are are ok with it.

**Truth:** Our priorities must always be centered on the priorities of Jesus.

**Application:** We focus on having our earthly affairs in order.  
What about our eternal affairs?

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## Next Steps

We have been talking a lot about going deep this fall. What are you actually doing to take your relationship deeper with Jesus? If your answer is “nothing,” take a step and move beyond good intentions. Ask for God’s help to follow through.

### Small Group Questions



- 1) What was the highlight of your week?
- 2) Grant shared an embarrassing cringe moment on the weekend. What is your most embarrassing moment?
- 3) Do you think Jesus was being cruel by asking so much from the disciples? Does the fact that he was preparing to die for you affect your opinion?
- 4) Which of the three conversations resonates with you the most? Why?
- 5) The underlying theme in each conversation is Jesus First. How are you living that out this week as a disciple of Jesus?
- 6) How can we pray for you tonight?