

Keeping Company With Jesus
Lecture
September 16/17 2008

I. Introduction

II. An invitation for dramatic life change

In Matthew 11:28-30, Jesus said:

“Are you tired? Worn out? Burned out on religion? Come to me. Get away with me and you’ll recover your life. I’ll show you how to take a real rest. Walk with me and work with me- watch how I do it. Learn the unforced rhythms of grace. I won’t lay anything heavy or ill-fitting on you. Keep company with me and you’ll learn to live freely and lightly.” (The Message)

A. Jesus’ questions: *“Are you tired? Worn out? Burned out on religion?”*

1. Jesus issues a call to all those that are _____. The word weary speaks to those who are _____.
2. People’s weariness comes from _____, probably the burdens of sin and its consequences or the trials that life throws our way.
3. Jesus also issues a call to those who are _____. The word burdened speaks to those who are _____.

B. Jesus’ answer and invitation

1. Jesus invites us to come to Him and _____ our life.

C. The desire for a different life

III. So, keeping company with Jesus is.....

A. Opening your soul to God with spiritual practices. (disciplines)

1. Christ being formed in you is _____! *“My dear children, for whom I am again in the pains of childbirth until Christ is formed in you.” Galations 4:19*

2. Spiritual practices are about helping my _____ so as to _____ from God and _____ what He has for me. *“Being confident of this, that he who began a good work in your will carry it on to completion until the day of Christ Jesus.” Philippians 1:6*

3. Spiritual disciplines catalogued under the acronym WORSHIP

- **W**orship God
- **O**pen myself to God
- **R**elinquish the false self and idols of my heart
- **S**hare my life with others
- **H**ear the word of God
- **I**ncarnate Christ’s love for the world
- **P**ray to God

B. We learn to live life as Jesus would if Jesus were us.

1. Throughout his life, Jesus kept company _____. He is our model!
(John 7:16, John 5:19, John 8:29, John 5:19, John 8:28, John 15:15, John 17:6, John 12:49)

2. Seeking His _____ and His _____ become a way of life. (Matt. 6:33)

3. We become increasingly able to do all things, _____, as if Christ were doing them. (Col. 3:17)

C. We move from “knowing about” God to truly “knowing God.” (James 1:22-24, John 14:9)

IV. Ya gotta know who you're keeping company with!

A. Who is Jesus?

1. The connection of Jesus with God the father: Jesus radiates God's own glory and expresses the very character of God. (Hebrews 1:3)

2. God's plan for His Son and the world

For God so loved the world that he gave his one and only Son, that whoever believes in him shall not perish but have eternal life. (John 3:16)

V. Will you say "yes" to the invitation?