



## “CONSCIOUS AND INTENTIONAL MINISTRY: DOING WHO I AM WITH UNDERSTANDING”

Of Issachar, those who had understanding of the times, to  
know what Israel ought to do... 1 Chronicles 12:32

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PASTOR MARTIN CHILDS, JR.

TEXT: LUKE 9:57-62

TITLE: DEALING WITH DISTRACTIONS? FOLLOW JESUS

### INTRODUCTION

- A. Distractions – Divert your attention away from the more important thing \_\_\_\_\_
- B. The devil uses distractions – To divert our attention away from God [the more important thing] to something else [less important] \_\_\_\_\_
- C. It is therefore necessary for us to deal with our distractions and follow Jesus \_\_\_\_\_
- D. Note: The people called Jesus, “Lord” \_\_\_\_\_
- E. Calling Jesus “Lord” does not mean that Jesus is Lord of my life \_\_\_\_\_
  1. **Matthew 7:21** - <sup>21</sup> “Not everyone who says to Me, ‘Lord, Lord,’ shall enter the kingdom of heaven, but he who does the will of My Father in heaven.
  2. **Luke 6:46** - <sup>46</sup> “But why do you call Me ‘Lord, Lord,’ and not do the things which I say?”
- F. If Jesus is truly the Lord of my life, what is the evidence? The evidence is seen in my following Jesus \_\_\_\_\_
- G. To Follow Jesus I must Sacrifice, Prioritize and Commit \_\_\_\_\_

### SACRIFICE SELF: THE PRESENT FOR THE FUTURE

- A. What am I willing to sacrifice to follow Jesus? \_\_\_\_\_
- B. Am I willing to give up present comfort for future blessings? \_\_\_\_\_
- C. I cannot stay where I am and follow Jesus... \_\_\_\_\_

### PRIORITIZE THE LIVING OVER THE DEAD: THE FUTURE IS MORE IMPORTANT THAN THE PAST

- A. Jesus appears to be insensitive... \_\_\_\_\_
- B. It is not a matter of compassion; it is a matter of priority \_\_\_\_\_
- C. We are called to life... (**John 1:4**, <sup>4</sup> *In Him was life, and the life was the light of men/women*) \_\_\_\_\_
  1. In Jesus, there is life
  2. In Jesus, there is light

### COMMIT TO MOVING FORWARD: FORWARD TO THE FUTURE

- A. It may mean leaving people or things behind \_\_\_\_\_
- B. If you look back, you are thinking back. If you are thinking back, you will go back \_\_\_\_\_
  1. Lot’s wife
  2. The Children of Israel regarding Egypt
  3. **John 6:66**, <sup>66</sup> *From that time many of His disciples went back and walked with Him no more.* <sup>67</sup> *Then Jesus said to the twelve, “Do you also want to go away?”*
- C. If you look back, it should only be to reflect on how far God has brought you [Paul] \_\_\_\_\_