

## Matthew 9:9

*As Jesus passed on from there, He saw a man named Matthew sitting at the tax office. And He said to him, "Follow Me." So he arose and followed Him.*

You may be familiar with today's devotional verse, where Jesus called Matthew, who was a tax collector, to come and follow Him, and how did He call Matthew? He simply said, "**Follow Me.**"

Now you may be thinking, that's a no duh, we just read that, which is true. But also notice what Jesus didn't say. He didn't say follow my apostles, or do what they do, and say what they say, because they follow Me. Now Jesus could have because he had already called several of the apostles at this time, and you would think that if they were with Jesus and followed Jesus, that they would be good examples to follow. Think again, try reading through the four gospels again and see how much each and every one of them messed up, even though they physically walked and talked and heard Jesus teach for three years.

Yet how many don't want to follow Jesus because of those who claim to be Christians and yet they live more like demons. Or how many will leave the church because of what a Christian has said or done to them, thinking they want nothing more to do with Jesus and church?

Maybe you are one of those who feel that way, or are about to walk away from the church because of some other Christian. Once again, the problem is you are following a man or a woman, who is a follower of Jesus, or claims to be, because they have the title of Christian.

Jesus also didn't say to follow anyone famous, such as an actor/actress, musician, singer, a great sports figure, or someone who has great business sense. What if you stopped following after those types of people and actually started to follow Jesus, and Jesus alone, not a man, or woman or child or anyone else, just Jesus, how do you think your life would change?

† **John 8:12 (NLT)** *Jesus spoke to the people once more and said, "I am the light of the world. If you follow me, you won't have to walk in darkness, because you will have the light that leads to life."*