

FOLLOWER: THE ONE TITLE NEEDED TO LEAD FOR CHRIST.

Michelle Myers

All quotes are from Michelle Myers unless otherwise noted.

The only title that you should pursue is FOLLOWER.

The only title that you need to lead for Jesus is follower.

God's Word is the only Word that can mess us up in the best way possible.

You do not have to have a platform or a following to make a Kingdom impact.

If you are following Jesus, you have everything you need to lead for Christ.

Keep the main thing the main thing.

Following God is not easy, but it is simple.

When the gospel is complicated, it means we have either taken something away or added something to it.

5 But they do all their deeds to be noticed by men; for they broaden their phylacteries and lengthen the tassels of their garments.

phylacteries: They were supposed to be a personal reminder of God's Word, and the Pharisees had turned them into a public spectacle to draw attention to their "spiritual devotion"

Don't do it to be noticed.

This doesn't mean "don't do anything that others might notice" but don't do it to be noticed.

A handful of social media unfollows does not qualify as "persecution."

Doing deeds to get noticed - if noticed meant negative response, would it affect your boldness?

6 They love the place of honor at banquets and the chief seats in the synagogues, 7 and respectful greetings in the market places, and being called Rabbi by men.

They love: popularity, importance, approval, titles. Those are adolescent struggles.

Growing spiritually is the only way that we mature. Otherwise, we just get older.

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8 But do not be called Rabbi; for One is your Teacher, and you are all brothers. 9 Do not call anyone on earth your father; for One is your Father, He who is in heaven. 10 Do not be called [b]leaders; for One is your Leader, that is, Christ.

When it comes to other believers, we're siblings.

Do you treat other believers more like you're their sister or you're their leader/teacher?

Jesus is the spiritual superior.

Does not say "do not lead" or "do not teach." Don't exalt the title.

Titles become a problem when they've become the pursuit.

Do not reinforce your fleshly bent toward pride and self.

There is a BIG difference between leadership/teaching that is "I'm above you" advice vs. "I love you" advice

Be an "I love you" kind of leader/teacher, not a "I'm above you" leader/teacher.

11 But the greatest among you shall be your servant.

Becoming a servant requires steps toward humility, and following steps toward greatness is a step toward pride.

The actual term "servant leadership" is nowhere in the Bible.

If the Bible simply says "How to be great is by being a servant," why do we have to add "leadership" to the end of it, except to appease our own egos?

12 Whoever exalts himself shall be humbled; and whoever humbles himself shall be exalted.

If you don't intentionally fight against your pride, your pride will fight against your Kingdom impact.

Be humble or get humbled. - anonymous

Humility = doing what God has called me to do with all my might, whether everyone's watching or no one is

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FOLLOWERS:

WORSHIP GOD

“Worship is my head, heart and hands responding to who God is and what God has done” – Bruce Frank

We make bigger what we worship.

SO if your greatest desire or your greatest struggle is having a bigger business, you have a bigger problem.

God needs to be bigger.

Because when God is bigger, when HE is the sole object of our worship, less important stuff matters less.

SERVE

“If God has called you to something high, go low.” – John Piper

Something high = you represent Jesus

If He is your Savior, He has called you to something high because He has called you to represent Him.

Do it with a view of getting under God and under who you’re serving to lift them up, never to get over others to look down and feel superior.

“If serving is beneath you, leadership is beyond you.” – John Maxwell

“Ministry is getting dirty to make others clean.” Dave Early.

LIVE ON MISSION

Not of the world, but sent in to it

John 17:18 – with the same authority God sent Jesus to earth, Jesus sends us into the world

“follow me as I follow Christ”

The more Paul knew of Christ, the less he thought of himself: -- How to Ruin Your Life by Eric Geiger

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least of the apostles (1 Corinthians 15:9)

least of the saints (Ephesians 3:8)

chief of all sinners (1 Timothy 1:15)

We should not be in a long term position of “follow me as I follow Christ.”

We have a much better example to point people to than ourselves.

Follower: The only title that we need to lead people to Christ.