

What Really Matters?

1 Corinthians 11:1

Week of September 3, 2023

BELONG

Ask this Ice Breaker Question: Who is the most well-known person that you follow on social media? Who is the least well-known?

BELIEVE

Have several people in your group read aloud these verses: 1 Corinthians 11:1, 3 John 1:11, Ephesians 5:1, Matthew 16:24, John 13:15

Leader Context (not to be read aloud):

We are continuing with a deep dive discussion on "imitation" in scripture.

Ask these questions to prompt group discussion:

1. Jesus says to imitate God. Paul encourages the Corinthians to "Be imitators of me, as I imitate Christ." What do you think are the main differences between imitating Jesus and imitating someone else who is imitating Jesus?

Leader Context (not to be read aloud):

Answers might include:

- Jesus is the most direct model of God to us.
- Imitating others may help us adopt some of Jesus' ways, but it also brings with it some human spiritual practices that may or may not be in keeping with Jesus.
- However, we all need a human to guide us to Jesus, especially in our early days of following Christ.

2. Have you ever found yourself following a Christian leader more than following Jesus? Do you know someone who has been this way? What was that like for you or for them?

3. What do you suppose is the surefire way to distinguish between imitating Jesus' way of life and imitating a human's commentary on Jesus' way of life

BECOME:

- 4. Are you imitating a Christian leader more than following Jesus? Or, is someone currently imitating you as you are imitating Christ? If so, what might you change in your thinking, doing, feeling to help ensure that everyone is following Christ as closely as possible?**