

RADICAL FOR JESUS!

Getting in Sync with Your
Inner Jesus Freak

BY ZORO

WWe're all subjects of King Jesus. He's earned our allegiance. And He has the authority to ask us for everything we've got.

But are we doing what He asked: to make disciples of all men and to be a light on a hill for others?

Many Christians would like to fulfill that great command, but unfortunately, fear and wrong mindsets keep them neutralized, ineffective and in a place of complacency. To initiate change you must live with an eternal focus, not place such a high value on things that are temporal.

Driven by Eternity, Today

Both Elvis Presley and Michael Jackson left this world without their earthly possessions—and so will you and I. It's vital that we live for God's *eternal Kingdom*, which rewards us, instead of living for today's *world system*, which deceives and derails us.

Second Corinthians 4:18 says, *Fix [your] eyes not on what is seen, but on what is unseen. For what is seen is temporary, but what is unseen is eternal* (NIV).

One great evangelist of the past said he kept heaven and hell constantly before him. If we're driven by eternity, we'll naturally live life differently.

But What Will People Say?

When we live like Jesus, we're going to upset people. Yet, another huge stumbling block believers can face is an insatiable appetite for the approval of others.

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We have to get past that.

Revelation 22:12 says, *Behold, I am coming soon, and I shall...repay and render to each one just what his own actions and his own work merit.*

Why worry about what people think? In the end, only God's opinion matters. He's the Judge.

Going from Believer to Follower

Did you know that in the Bible Jesus talks more about hell than heaven? I believe God wants us to understand the power of salvation, because if we take it for granted, we won't concern ourselves with the eternal fate of others. And nothing is more important.

Matthew 16:26 asks, *What profit is it to a man if he gains the whole world, and loses his own soul?* (NKJV).



We need to be consumed for His cause.

Our faith isn't complete until we have true compassion for the lost. Remember, God first loved us while we were still sinners, and we should do the same. We are to be God's hands, arms, eyes, ears and heart to a fallen world.

Didn't Paul tell us, *"If I have not love, I have nothing"*? (See 1 Corinthians 13:3.)

We cannot say we are followers of Christ when we are religious hypocrites with a rude, judgmental spirit. Instead, we are to have a genuine heart of love, compassion and mercy toward others.

Radical at Last

When we finally get that into our heart, mind, soul and spirit, we will willingly abandon everything else that keeps us from following hard after Him.

“Why worry about what people think? In the end, only God's opinion matters. He's the Judge.”

Jesus' first disciples got even more radical to preach the Gospel after He rose from the dead. Why? Because they realized He spoke the truth and that truth freed them from this life's concerns.

Paul said, *"...to live is Christ and to die is gain"* (see Philippians 1:21). We must die to self in order to be of service.

Getting radical for Jesus doesn't mean shirking your responsibilities, quitting your job, dumping your family or dismissing God's call on your life in order to become some wild street preacher. More than anything we need *doers* of the Word—people who will help the poor and oppressed in Jesus' name.

Matthew 5:16 says, *Let your light shine before men, that they may see your good deeds and praise your Father in heaven* (NIV).

A truly radical person is fully surrendered to God with the whole of their heart to carry out His will. You go from being a believer, of which there are many, to a follower, of which there are very few. The power of God shows up in your life when you live in obedience to Him, in spirit and in truth. **E**

