



Revolution: Audience | November 13, 2019

Discussion Guide

The Scoop

Walking, yes, walking. Left, right, left right. If you mix those up, it doesn't go well. Walking is a great metaphor for how our faith is meant to be lived out. If you want to hear more about this, read below.

Key Verses

John 15:11-15 (NIV)

"I have told you this so that my joy may be in you and that your joy may be complete. My command is this: Love each other as I have loved you. Greater love has no one than this: to lay down one's life for one's friends. You are my friends if you do what I command. I no longer call you servants, because a servant does not know his master's business. Instead, I have called you friends, for everything that I learned from my

Father I have made known to you."

Discussion

If you think about the concept of walking, it's really pretty simple. You alternate steps – left, right, left right – and you don't even have to think about it. You wouldn't try to take two left steps without a right one. That just wouldn't make any sense. When it comes to our faith, however, we try to make it all one way or the other. But when we do that, we miss something. Instead, we should try to think about it more like we think about walking. For example, instead of just praying that God would do everything for us, we need to remember that in addition to praying that God would move, we need to take action steps ourselves as well.

1. In what ways do you think our faith is similar to walking?
2. Do you tend to think about your faith with more of a "one or the other" mentality? If so, explain.

Most of us tend to think that the "Jesus revolution" is only for one type of person, like people who only walk with their left foot. These could be people who already know, trust and believe in Jesus (the church). The people who only walk with their right foot could be like people who don't know or believe in Jesus. But the way that our faith is intended to be lived out is not only with left foot people. The left foot is great for us – through it we get support, camaraderie and encouragement. But if we only surround ourselves with left foot people, we trip. Although right foot people might be difficult for us, the truth is that they are just as important in our faith.

3. Are there more left foot or right foot people in your social circles? How do you think this informs your faith?
4. Why might right foot people be just as important in our faith as left foot people?

In John 15:11-15, Jesus lays this concept out for us. Jesus wants us, his children, to experience joy. He wants us to live full and meaningful lives. And he says that the way we do this is by loving one another. At one point, all of the left foot people in his inner circle were right foot people. And regardless, Jesus chose to love them, and to bring them into something that gave them support and love, so that they could go out and continue loving more right foot people.

5. What do you think is important in order for us to experience joy and full, meaningful lives?
6. What is one way you have interacted with a right foot person that has brought you joy and meaning?

What's Next?

Jesus says that we are his friends if we do what he commands. And that's where a lot of us get it mixed up. We think that because the right foot people aren't doing what Jesus commands, they can't be *our* friends. In the passage, Jesus calls his followers his friends. Not his servants, but people close to him that he's included in his plans. And he does this, so that we are fueled to go out and love others who don't know God. We need to be the church, so that others might come to know him through the church.

This week, as you live out and engage your faith, consider who's on your left foot team. Who are the people who support, love, and celebrate with you? And then consider if you have right foot friends and community. Identify one way you can invite those people in and love them. Think about how you can take both left and right footsteps in Jesus' revolution this week.