**Who Do I Follow?**

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| Good Examples | Poor Examples – Do not be like these |
| Joshua (**Joshua 24:14-24**) | Rich Young Ruler (**Mark 10:17-22**) |
| Job (**Job 42:7-8**) | Pharisees (**Luke 7:29-30**) |
| Apostles (**John 6:60-69, Acts 4:18-31, 5:28-32**) | Herod Agrippa ( **Acts 26:27-29**) |

Like a tree planted by the water (**Psalm 1:3, Jeremiah 17:7-8**)

* This is not an accident, but a choice (out west Cottonwoods). I saw that when I was in Montana last year.
  + Giant trees that choose to be next to the water, where they can get their nourishment, no matter how long the droughts of life last
  + Pioneers on the Oregon Trail and other trails would look for Cottonwood Trees to find water on their journeys
* It is a choice to commit your life to God
* It is a choice to trust in Him when times get rough in this life
* It is a choice to follow Jesus

**Also see Matthew 8:18-22, John 10:27, Revelation 14:4-5**

**CLOSE**

1. **Who do I follow each day?** Maybe some days I follow Jesus, some days I follow someone else, and some days I follow myself. The times when I do not follow Jesus are bad days. Our goal should be to try to follow Jesus each and every day!

For those of us who are Christians in this building this morning; It would not surprise me if each and every one of you is going through some sort of trial or sadness right now. Some of those trials may be severe. Through those trials, who will you follow? Man, yourself, or the ones who are only a prayer away? God the Father, Son, and Holy Spirit will help us through any trials that come our way. There is no one else who can do that!

Joshua, Job, and the Apostles knew that and set a great example for all to follow (**Proverbs 3:5-6**).

2. **If you are not a Christian, who do you follow?** Whoever it is, the one you are following is not Jesus.

Why not put on Jesus in baptism this morning (**Galatians 3:26-29**)? Do you want to be an heir of salvation and an heir of eternal life? Then choose to follow Jesus this morning.

If we can help you now, please come forward while we stand and sing!