

**I love  
following  
Jesus  
because...**

“

O Lord, you have examined my heart and know everything about me. You know when I sit down or stand up. You know my thoughts even when I'm far away. You see me when I travel and when I rest at home. You know everything I do.

Psalm 139:1-17 (NLT)

Community



“

You know what I am going to say even before I say it, Lord. You go before me and follow me. You place your hand of blessing on my head. Such knowledge is too wonderful for me, too great for me to understand!

Psalm 139:1-17 (NLT)

Community

“

I can never escape from your Spirit! I can never get away from your presence! If I go up to heaven, you are there; if I go down to the grave, you are there. If I ride the wings of the morning, if I dwell by the farthest oceans, even there your hand will guide me, and your strength will support me.

Psalm 139:1-17 (NLT)

Community



“

I could ask the darkness to hide me and the light around me to become night— but even in darkness I cannot hide from you. To you the night shines as bright as day. Darkness and light are the same to you.

Psalm 139:1–17 (NLT)

Community

“

How precious are your thoughts about me, O God. They cannot be numbered! I can't even count them; they outnumber the grains of sand! And when I wake up, you are still with me!

Psalm 139:1-17 (NLT)

Community





He knows me  
and still  
loves me



**What do  
these  
things  
have in  
common?**



“

When the woman saw that the fruit of the tree was good for food and pleasing to the eye, and also desirable for gaining wisdom, she took some and ate it. She also gave some to her husband, who was with her, and **he ate it.**

Genesis 3:6 (NIV)

“

Noah, a man of the soil, proceeded to plant a vineyard. When he drank some of its wine, **he became drunk** and lay uncovered inside his tent.

Genesis 9:20–21 (NIV) )



“

One day, after Moses had grown up, he went out to where his own people were and watched them at their hard labor. He saw an Egyptian beating a Hebrew, one of his own people. Looking this way and that and seeing no one, **he killed** the Egyptian and hid him in the sand.

Exodus 2:11–12 (NIV)

“

But Moses said to God, “Who am I that I should go to Pharaoh and bring the Israelites out of Egypt?” And God said, “I will be with you...

But Moses said, “Pardon your servant, Lord. Please send someone else.”

Exodus 3:11–4:13 (NIV)



“

Then Joshua son of Nun secretly sent two spies from Shittim. “Go, look over the land,” he said, “especially Jericho.” So they went and entered the house of a prostitute named Rahab and stayed there.

Joshua 2:1 (NIV)

“

So **Solomon did evil** in the eyes of the Lord; he did not follow the Lord completely, as David his father had done.

1 Kings 11:6 (NIV)



“

But **Jonah** ran away from the **Lord** and headed for Tarshish....

Jonah 1:3 (NIV)

“

Then he went out to the gateway, where another servant girl saw him and said to the people there, “This fellow was with Jesus of Nazareth.” He denied it again, with an oath: “I don’t know the man!” After a little while, those standing there went up to Peter and said, “Surely you are one of them; your accent gives you away.” Then he began to call down curses, and he swore to them, “I don’t know the man!” Immediately a rooster crowed.

Matthew 26:71–74 (NIV)



“

“Lord,” Ananias answered, “I have heard many reports about this man and all the harm he has done to your holy people in Jerusalem. And he has come here with authority from the chief priests to arrest all who call on your name.”

Acts 9:13–14 (NIV)

“

As he was about to enter Egypt, he said to his wife Sarai, “I know what a beautiful woman you are. When the Egyptians see you, they will say, ‘This is his wife.’ Then they will kill me but will let you live. Say you are my sister, so that I will be treated well for your sake and my life will be spared because of you.”

Genesis 12:11–13 (NIV)

Community



“

Elijah was afraid and ran for his life. When he came to Beersheba in Judah, he left his servant there, while he himself went a day's journey into the wilderness. He came to a broom bush, sat down under it and prayed that he might die. "I have had enough, Lord," he said. "Take my life; I am no better than my ancestors."

Mark 3:20-21 (NIV)

“

Then Jesus entered a house, and again a crowd gathered, so that he and his disciples were not even able to eat. When his family heard about this, they went to take charge of him, for they said, “He is out of his mind.”

1 Kings 19:3 (NIV)



You don't have to be perfect to be loved by God.

You don't have to be perfect to be used by God.

God's love and mercy can overcome your failures.

God uses people who don't always  
have their act together

I LOVE  
FOLLOWING  
JESUS  
BECAUSE....



“

He does not punish us for all our sins; he does not deal harshly with us, as we deserve. For his unfailing love toward those who fear him is as great as the height of the heavens above the earth. He has removed our sins as far from us as the east is from the west.

Psalm 103:10–14 (NLT)

Community

“

The Lord is like a father to his children, tender and  
compassionate to those who fear him.

For he knows how weak we are; he remembers we are only  
dust.

Psalm 103:10–14 (NLT)

Community



God knows I am weak, but He  
doesn't give up on me

- *God uses people who don't always have their  
act together*

I LOVE  
FOLLOWING  
JESUS  
BECAUSE....

“

O Lord, you have examined my heart and know everything  
about me.

Psalm 139:1 (NLT)

Community





“

We have more “friends”  
and yet we are lonelier  
than ever.



“

Such knowledge is too wonderful for me, too great for me to understand!

Psalm 139:6 (NLT)

Community



I need to stop pretending I have it all together and tell God I need Him.

- *God uses people who don't always have their act together*
- *God knows I am weak, but He doesn't give up on me*

I LOVE  
FOLLOWING  
JESUS  
BECAUSE....

“

If we claim we have no sin, **we are only fooling ourselves** and not living in the truth. But if we confess our sins to him, he is faithful and just to forgive us our sins and to cleanse us from all wickedness.

1 John 1:8–9 (NLT)



“

I don't really understand myself, for I want to do what is right, but I don't do it. Instead, I do what I hate. But if I know that what I am doing is wrong, this shows that I agree that the law is good. So I am not the one doing wrong; it is sin living in me that does it.

Romans 7:15–25 (NLT)

“

And I know that nothing good lives in me, that is, in my sinful nature. I want to do what is right, but I can't. I want to do what is good, but I don't. I don't want to do what is wrong, but I do it anyway. But if I do what I don't want to do, I am not really the one doing wrong; it is sin living in me that does it.

Romans 7:15–25 (NLT)



“

I have discovered this principle of life—that **when I want to do what is right, I inevitably do what is wrong.**

I love God's law with all my heart.

Romans 7:15–25 (NLT)

Community

“

But there is another power within me that is at war with my mind. This power makes me a slave to the sin that is still within me. Oh, what a miserable person I am!

Who will free me from this life that is dominated by sin and death? Thank God! The answer is in Jesus Christ our Lord...

Romans 7:15–25 (NLT)



“

But the Pharisees and the teachers of the law who belonged to their sect complained to his disciples, “Why do you eat and drink with tax collectors and sinners?” Jesus answered them, “It is not the healthy who need a doctor, but the sick. I have not come to call the righteous, but sinners to repentance.”

Luke 5:30–32 (NIV)

“

Change is not found  
in defending our  
righteousness, but  
in admitting our  
weakness and  
crying for help.



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BECAUSE...

“

To whatever extent I am able to convince myself that my sin isn't really sin—that is, that my little wrongs do not really rise to the level of what Jesus died for—I am not really that excited about grace. Why? Because I have convinced myself that I don't really need the rescue and forgiveness that grace offers.

Paul David Tripp, *New Morning Mercies: A Daily Gospel Devotional*  
(Wheaton, IL: Crossway, 2014), 149

Perhaps before you  
start confessing  
your sin you should  
first confess your  
righteousness.



God, search me and show me how I  
can be more like you

- *God uses people who don't always have their act together*
- *God knows I am weak, but He doesn't give up on me*
- *I need to stop pretending I have it all together and tell God I need Him.*

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BECAUSE....

“

Search me, O God, and know my heart; test me and know my anxious thoughts. Point out anything in me that offends you, and lead me along the path of everlasting life.

Psalm 139:23–24 (NLT)



“

This High Priest of ours understands our weaknesses, for he faced all of the same testings we do, yet he did not sin. So let us come boldly to the throne of our gracious God. There we will receive his mercy, and we will find grace to help us when we need it most.

Hebrews 4:15–16 (NLT)

- God uses people who don't always have their act together
- God knows I am weak, but He doesn't give up on me
- I need to stop pretending I have it all together and tell God I need Him.
- God search me and show me how I can be more like you

I LOVE FOLLOWING JESUS BECAUSE...



- God uses people who don't always have their act together
- God knows I am weak, but He doesn't give up on me
- I need to stop pretending I have it all together and tell God I need Him.
- God search me and show me how I can be more like you

”

God specializes in  
making me more  
than I deserve to  
be.



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