FoDCC: 15th June 2014 - Speaker Tim Cracknell, "Fathers Day"

Becoming a follower, not a fan

Matthew 16:21-28

"Then Jesus said to his disciples, "If any of you wants to be my follower, you must turn from your selfish ways, take up your cross, and follow me." Matthew 16:24

1. Turn from selfish ways (Deny self)

"...you must turn from your selfish ways..." v 24

"This letter is from James, a slave of God and of The Lord Jesus Christ." James 1:1

"You must have the same attitude that Christ Jesus had...he gave up his divine privileges, he took the humble position of a slave." Philippians 2:5 & 7

2. Take up your cross

"...take up your cross..." v 24

Symbol of humiliation Symbol of suffering Symbol of death

3. Take up your cross daily

"...take up your cross daily..." Luke 9:23

4. Passionately <u>pursue</u> Christ

"...and follow me." v 24

"The Kingdom of Heaven is like a treasure that a man discovered hidden in a field. In his excitement, he hid it again and sold everything he owned to get enough money to buy the field." Matthew 13:44

"If you try to hang on to your life, you will lose it. But if you give up your life for my sake, you will save it. And what do you benefit if you gain the whole world but lose your own soul? Is anything worth more than your soul? For the Son of Man will come with his angels in the glory of his Father and will judge all people according to their deeds." Matthew 16:25-27