

MOMENTUM BUILDERS

DIGGING INTO THE HEART OF THE MESSAGE.

"WHAT IT TAKES TO STAY A FOLLOWER"

JEFF BOGUE

Pastor Jeff Bogue shares about what it takes to stay a Follower. A slow fade distracts away from relationship with God, and the battles God wants us to win. What is hindering you from staying a Follower?

MESSAGE OPENER: AN HONEST LOOK AT OBEDIENCE

The story is told of a father of five who came home with a toy. He summoned his children and asked which one should be given the present. "Who is the most obedient, never talks back to mom and does everything he or she is told to do?" He inquired. There was silence, and then a chorus of voices: "You play with it Daddy!"

(Text Illustration shared by Steve Malone, Maple Grove Christian Church May 2001) <http://www.sermoncentral.com/illustrations/sermon-illustration-steve-malone-humor-faith-doinggodswill-fathersday-2695.asp>

READ: 1 Samuel 10:1-8

WATCH: Jeff Bogue —Momentum 2014. 46 Minutes. <http://onmissioninsights.com/tostayaFollower>

KEY POINTS:

Shifting Intentions. Most people start out with good intentions and have a genuine desire to follow God, but something happens and the story is derailed. Saul was given great anointing and authority (1 Samuel 10:7) but Saul moved away from God. He went from a Follower —to Fan.

Memory or Experience. Saul's relationship with the Lord began to be something he remembered instead of experienced. He was not in active relationship with the Lord, he just reflected on the time he did.

Not your battle. "David and Goliath" was originally supposed to be "Saul and Goliath" but God's anointed leader gave up his right to fight a righteous battle. Fear gripped Saul more than his faith. If God wants something done and all he has to interact with is fans— he will always raise up a Follower.

CLOSING CHALLENGES:

Slow Fade In the same way that Saul shifted away from the Lord slowly, how do we in our culture, families, and school cause us to drift away from God? What "small things" are at work in your life? Is God at work in your life a memory or a present experience?

Take Account. Fans attempt to intimidate or "talk down" Followers. Learning to take account of the cost is part of Following Jesus. (1 Samuel 17:28-32) Remaining a Follower will not be easy. How can you train now to prepare for the hard hits to come?

The Story that never should have happened. Goliath wasn't David's fight. Victory over Goliath wasn't even David's promise—it was Saul's. But he gave it up—because he was a Fan. What battles could you be giving up by reverting to being a Fan? The only thing that will stop you from killing the giant is you. Is it worth it to give up? What do you need to radically alter in your life today? The only person that stopped Saul was Saul. The only person to stop you is you. Follower or Fan is your choice. The giant wants control of your life. Do you give it control —or kill it and cut off its head? But know this, if you live life as a Fan, he will raise up a Follower who receives the reward which was rightfully yours.