HE WORD- A FOLLOWERS GUIDE"

KEITH MINIER If there are no absolutes, there was absolutely no reason for Jesus to die. Trusting in the Word as our road map and daily guide is key to being a follower. What roadblocks keep us back from enacting the Word daily?

MESSAGE OPENER:

A young pilot had just passed the point of no return when the weather changed for the worse. Putting total trust in the cockpit instruments was a new experience to him. The landing worried him the most. His destination was a crowded metropolitan airport he wasn't familiar with. In a few minutes he would be in radio contact with the tower. Until then, he was alone with his thoughts. His instructor had practically forced him to memorize the rulebook. He didn't care for it at the time, but now he was thankful. Finally he heard the voice of the air traffic controller. "I'm going to put you on a holding pattern," the controller radioed. Great! thought the pilot. However, he knew that his safe landing was in the hands of this person. He had to draw upon his previous instructions and training, and trust the voice of an air traffic controller he couldn't see. For the next 45 minutes, the controller gently guided the pilot through the blinding fog. As course and altitude corrections came periodically, the young pilot realized the controller was guiding him around obstacles and away from potential collisions. With the words of the rulebook firmly placed in his mind, and with the gentle voice of the controller, he landed safely at last.

Dr. Anderson, Freedom in Christ and Harvest House Publishers www.ficm.org

READ: Psalm 119:9-16

WATCH: Keith Minier—Momentum 2014. 47 Minutes. http://onmissioninsights.com/TheWordourGuide

KEY POINTS:

Certain truths are not debatable. If there are no absolutes, there is absolutely no reason for Jesus to die. God's absolutes are absolutely good. No one who has ever been obedient to the Word has regretted it.

God wants the best for you. God is not saying "don't" He is saying "don't hurt yourself." The Bible shows us the fullness of God's love. We can trust the Word of God because the Word died for you and me.

You can't have it both ways. The faith of Jesus Christ is not a faith of suggestion. Commitment is required. When you know someone's heart—it's easier to trust. Spending time with the Word builds the trust required to take on the easy parts of the Word, and the hard parts. Both are required for us to be followers.

CLOSING CHALLENGES:

Heart Check. How many of us want the benefits of God and not God? Yet, if I can trust Jesus with my salvation and eternity, then why can't I trust Him with the day-to-day? What daily habits do you need to submit to the Word's guidance in your life?

Done not do. Your belief in the "done" of Jesus' work of salvation is reflected in how you live out and honor the one who "done it". That happens as you surrender and submit to the Word of God's plan for your life. Jesus has given us the map—our call is to bury the Word in our hearts and live it in our lives. What time of day are you doing to spend with the map to learn His principles?

Recalculating. Being a follower is not a one-time discussion. We must continually remind ourselves of who we are and where we are going. Disciples are people who make a lifetime of decisions. We must return to the directions to help guide us through the thousands of decisions to come. What big decisions in your life need recalculated? What mentor, youth leader, coach can you talk to about this? When, this week, can you set up a time to talk?