

# Footprints of Jesus

## I. Introduction

A. The song *Footprints of Jesus* expresses a theme of the New Testament: our need to follow Jesus' example. Consider ten specific instructions we are given that we can see emulated by looking at the "footprints of Jesus." *Song 239*; **1 Peter 2:21**

## II. "Not Rendering Evil for Evil"

A. Instead of seeking revenge against those who mistreat us, God teaches that we should leave vengeance to Him. No one has better exemplified this than Jesus. **1 Peter 3:9; Romans 12:19; 1 Peter 2:23**

## III. "Run with Patience..."

A. God also stresses the need for patience (i.e., endurance, perseverance) in doing good. Jesus exemplifies and motivates persistence in doing what's right. **Hebrews 12:1-3**

## IV. "Resist the Devil"

A. Jesus has also showed us how to resist the devil when faced with temptations to sin, looking to divine truth instead of being deceived by Satan's lies. **James 4:7b; Matthew 4:1-11**

## V. "Fervent in Spirit"

A. Moreover, the responsibility we have to be fervent in the spirit is exemplified by Christ. **Romans 12:11; Titus 2:14; Revelation 3:15-16, 19; John 2:14-17**

## VI. "Pray without Ceasing"

A. One area in which Jesus demonstrated fervency is in prayer. He constantly made time for prayer, as *we* must do. **1 Thess. 5:17; Mark 1:35; Matthew 14:23; Luke 6:12; Matthew 26:36**

## VII. "Love...in Deed and Truth"

A. The Holy Spirit through John emphasizes our need for genuine love that is proven through action. No better example of this can be imagined than that of Jesus. **1 John 3:17-18, 16; 2 Corinthians 8:7-8, 9**

## VIII. "Serve One Another"

A. One thing genuine love leads to is service. The humble attitude of servitude God expects of us has been perfectly demonstrated by God the Son Himself. **Galatians 5:13; John 13:3-5, 15**

## IX. "Forgiving Each Other"

A. Love also leads to a forgiving spirit, which God commands of us as well. Jesus has perfectly shown us what this looks like. His willingness to not hold bitterness and resentment toward those who've mistreated Him is an attitude to imitate. **Colossians 3:13; Luke 23:34; 23:43; Matthew 27:41-44**

## X. "Be Ye Holy"

A. God further instructs us to be *holy*. He doesn't want us to conform to the world, but to be set apart for Him. Jesus has shown us what such holiness looks like. **1 Peter 1:15-16; John 17:14-17**

## XI. "Be Subject...unto God"

A. Instead of following the world's pattern, God wants us to submit ourselves fully to His will. This involves a willingness to forsake and pursue whatever we must to obey Him. Our Lord has shown us what this looks like as well. **James 4:7a; Philippians 2:6-8; John 6:38; Luke 22:42; Luke 9:23 (cf. Matt. 16:21-23)**