



Discussion Guide for More than Magic Tricks

Monday Messiah Week 3

Why do you follow Jesus? Many of us follow because we want Jesus to change our circumstances, to work a miracle in our jobs, families or bodies. But Jesus' aim isn't to improve our lives. Rather, he seeks to invite us into something new. If we look to Jesus simply to prop up the life we already have, we won't follow him all the way to the Cross.

Scriptures for Further Reading

[John 6:23-56](#)

[Psalm 4](#)

[Luke 23:36-48](#)

[Acts 3:12-19](#)

[1 John 3:16-24](#)

Passage for Sacred Reading:

Sacred Reading is a way of reading Scripture with an eye toward transformation, not just information. You can find a [step-by-step guide here](#). The passage for this week's sacred reading is [John 6:23-56](#).

Questions for Discussion

1. What are some reasons people follow Jesus?
2. What is 'magical thinking'? Which of the reasons you listed above qualify as magical?
3. Revisit John 6:23-56. What did the crowds want from Jesus? Why did he refuse them?
4. Why is magical thinking an insufficient reason to follow Jesus?
5. How might God want to transform you (not your circumstances) this week?