

Radical Faith



“Somewhere along the way we [have] missed what is radical about our faith and replaced it with what is comfortable.” - Dr. David Platt

Letting Go of the Wheel

In our society, we are taught that the road to success is paved by individuality and hard work. And, as women, we are often obsessed with maintaining control. But, as Christians, we're called to live in a radically different way. We serve a God whose plans and purposes are far more beautiful and rewarding than our worldly aspirations. But following God's plan often takes a great deal of trust. Radical faith means letting go of the wheel and sliding over into the passenger seat, trusting that God has the best route planned for your life.



Taking My First Step

When I Drive: Write or draw some of the things you hope to do or obtain as you drive along the road of life.

When God Drives: Now imagine your life if God took the wheel 100% of the time. Write or draw some of the things God might do with your time here on earth.

Pausing to Ponder

1. What are some similarities or differences between the two lists or drawings you created in the previous activity?
2. What might this say about the current state of your priorities compared to God's priorities? How do you feel about this?
3. What are some biblical examples of people who needed radical faith to accomplish God's will?
4. How can radical faith help with God's purpose in your life?
5. How radical can your faith be?

Christ My Compass

Janet George

Jesus was radical. And, as we follow him, we find ourselves moving out of comfort and complacency to radical obedience.

“Which of these three do you think was a neighbor to the man who fell into the hands of robbers?” The expert in the law replied, “The one who had mercy on him.” Jesus told him, “Go and do likewise.” - Luke 10:36-37

Through the parable of the Good Samaritan (Luke 10:25-37), Jesus illustrated what loving your neighbor means. He did not end the teaching by saying, “Go home and think about what you have learned.” He said, “Go and do likewise.”

In your life, what might “go and do likewise” mean?

“Do to others as you would have them do to you.” - Luke 6:31

This is the Golden Rule. It is so familiar we forget it's from the Bible. But when first spoken by Jesus, it was not familiar. It was radical. The concept was commonly found in the negative in Rabbinic Judaism, Hinduism, Buddhism, Confucianism, Greek, and Roman ethical teachings. The teaching was, “One should *not* do to others what one would *not* wish done to oneself.” Jesus did not just say that we should not do to others what we would not wish done to ourselves. He went a step further and said we should *do* to others what we would want done to ourselves. Jesus pointed out that love is more than abstaining: love means doing.

Think of someone you know who needs to be shown love. What can you do for that person that you would want done for yourself?