

Serenity Now



Matthew 26:47-51, 55-56 The Message

47-49 The words were barely out of his mouth when Judas (the one from the Twelve) showed up, and with him a gang from the high priests and religious leaders brandishing swords and clubs. The betrayer had worked out a sign with them: “The one I kiss, that’s the one—seize him.” He went straight to Jesus, greeted him, “How are you, Rabbi?” and kissed him.

50-51 Jesus said, “Friend, why this charade?”

Then they came on him—grabbed him and roughed him up. One of those with Jesus pulled his sword and, taking a swing at the Chief Priest’s servant, cut off his ear.

55-56 Then Jesus addressed the mob:
“What is this—coming out after me with
swords and clubs as if I were a
dangerous criminal? Day after day I
have been sitting in the Temple
teaching, and you never so much as
lifted a hand against me. You’ve done it
this way to confirm and fulfill the
prophetic writings.”

Then all the disciples cut and ran.

Serenity Now



Luke 22:54-62

54-56 Arresting Jesus, they marched him off and took him into the house of the Chief Priest. Peter followed, but at a safe distance. In the middle of the courtyard some people had started a fire and were sitting around it, trying to keep warm. One of the serving maids sitting at the fire noticed him, then took a second look and said, "This man was with him!"

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57 He denied it, “Woman, I don’t even know him.”

58 A short time later, someone else noticed him and said, “You’re one of them.”

But Peter denied it: “Man, I am not.”

59 About an hour later, someone else spoke up, really adamant: “He’s got to have been with him! He’s got ‘Galilean’ written all over him.”

60-62 Peter said, “Man, I don’t know what you’re talking about.” At that very moment, the last word hardly off his lips, a rooster crowed. Just then, the Master turned and looked at Peter. Peter remembered what the Master had said to him: “Before the rooster crows, you will deny me three times.” He went out and cried and cried and cried.

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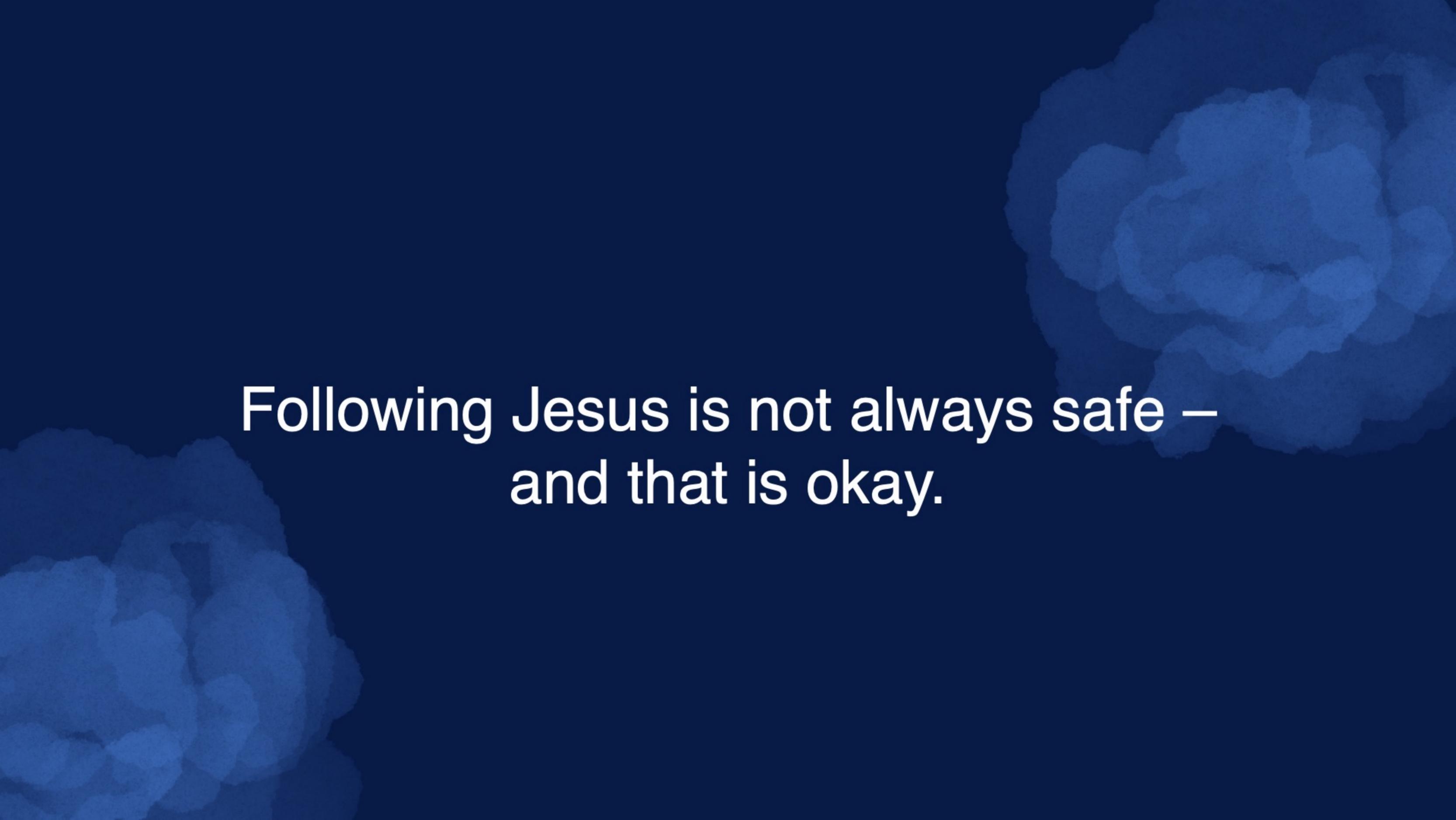


James 1:2-4

2-4 Consider it a sheer gift, friends, when tests and challenges come at you from all sides. You know that under pressure, your faith-life is forced into the open and shows its true colors. So don't try to get out of anything prematurely. Let it do its work so you become mature and well-developed, not deficient in any way.

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Following Jesus is not always safe –
and that is okay.

Serenity Now





Communion = Common Union

Serenity Now





Communion = Common Union

Serenity Now



So What?

Anxiety tempts us to run away.

Flee. Quit. Flight.

Now What?

Stay engaged in an anxious situation for a little longer than is comfortable.

Now What?

Look for common union (communion).

Serenity Now



Matthew 26:56

56 Then all the disciples cut and ran.

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Now What?

Consider sponsoring a child in Haiti.

Serenity Now

