

Things that are hard to understand about Jesus

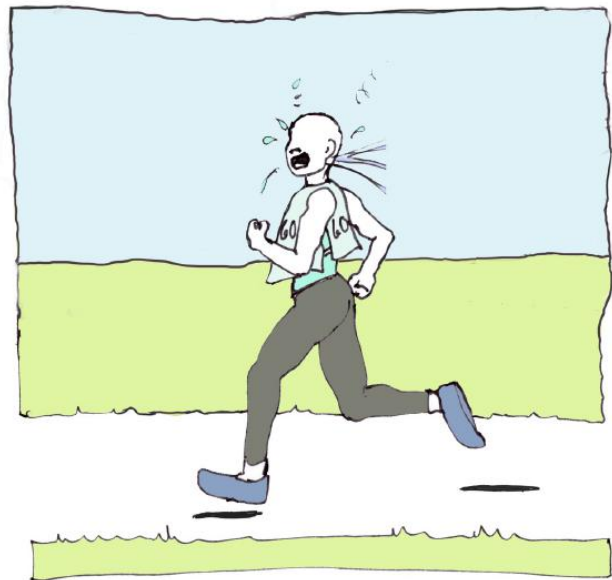
The suffering Son of God

1

Not being a stumbling block

Matthew 17:24-27

ref.ly/Mt17;niv



2

Matthew 17:24-25a

²⁴ After Jesus and his disciples arrived in Capernaum, the collectors of the two-drachma temple tax came to Peter and asked, “Doesn’t your teacher pay the temple tax?”

²⁵ “Yes, he does,” he replied.

drachma = one day’s minimum wage

3

Matthew 17:25b-26

When Peter came into the house, Jesus was the first to speak. “What do you think, Simon?” he asked. “From whom do the kings of the earth collect duty and taxes—from their own children or from others?”

²⁶ “From others,” Peter answered.

“Then the children are exempt,” Jesus said to him.

The children of the king have abundance, privilege, ...
Jesus is the only and beloved Son of Almighty God

Simon = Peter’s birth name

4

Matthew 17:27

²⁷ “But so that we may **not cause offense**, go to the lake and throw out your line. Take the first fish you catch; open its mouth and you will find a four-drachma coin. Take it and give it to them for **my tax and yours.**”

four-drachma = enough for tax on 2 people

5

The Big Idea

**Jesus surrendered His rights
so He wouldn't hinder
people's paths to God**

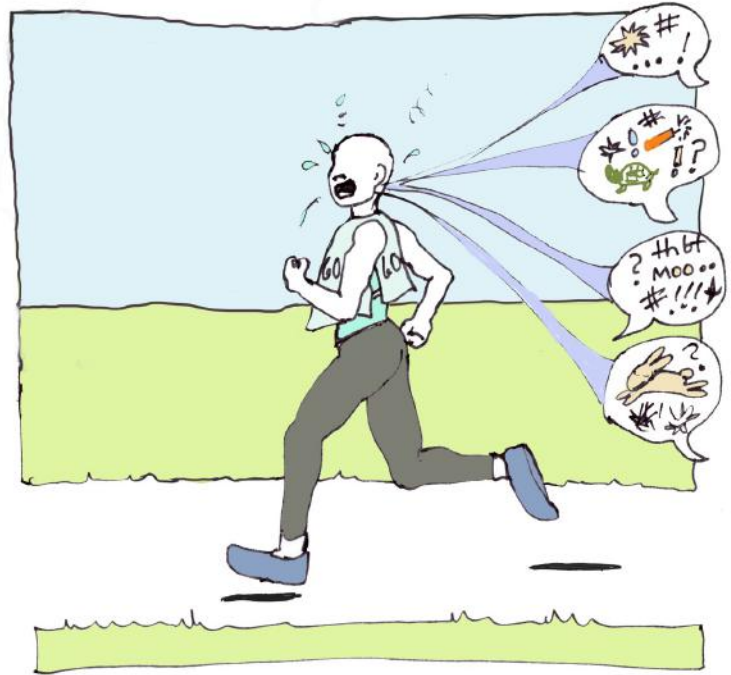
He expects His disciples to follow Him

6

Running is hard

Temptations for relief
make it harder

"Comments"
make it harder

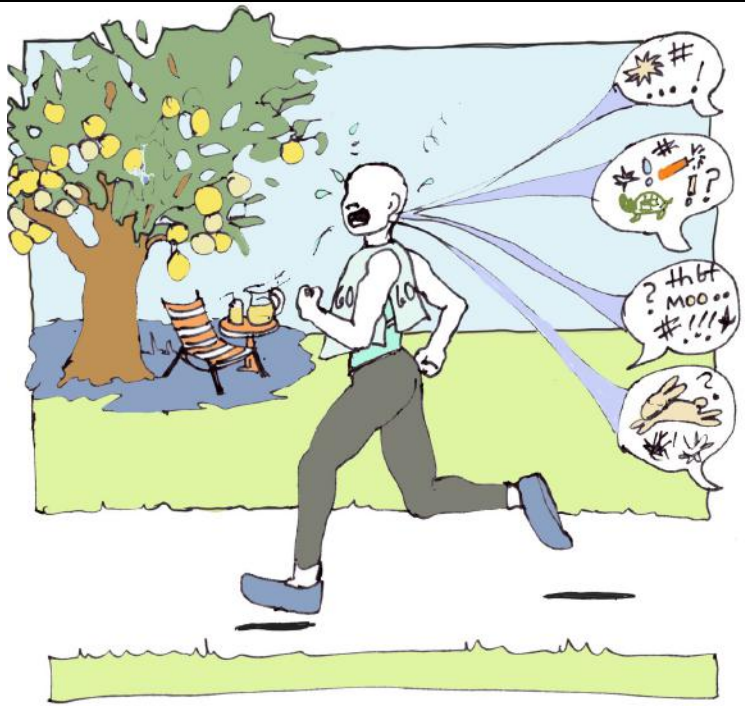


7

Finding and Following Jesus can be hard

Stumbling blocks
make it harder

Disciples sacrifice
their rights
rather than being
a stumbling block
to others



8

The Big Idea

**Jesus surrendered His rights
so He wouldn't hinder
people's paths to God**

He expects His disciples to follow Him

9

What are we to do?

For Christians, sacrifice our rights

- "Therefore, if what I eat causes my brother or sister to fall into sin, I will never eat meat again, so that I will not cause them to fall."

1 Corinthians 8:13

10

What are we to do?

For people finding Jesus, sacrifice our rights

- "I have become all things to all people, so that I may by every possible means save some."

1 Corinthians 9:22

11

"In your relationships with one another,
have the same mindset as Christ Jesus

Who, being in very nature God,
did not consider equality with God
something to be used to his own advantage;
rather, **he made himself nothing**
by taking the very nature of **a servant**,
being made in human likeness.

And being found in appearance as a man,
he **humbled himself**
by becoming **obedient to death—**
even death on a cross!" Philippians 2:5-8

12

“Therefore if you have any encouragement from being united with Christ, if any comfort from his love, if any common sharing in the Spirit, if any tenderness and compassion, then make my joy complete by being like-minded, having the same love, being one in spirit and of one mind. Do nothing out of selfish ambition or vain conceit. Rather, **in humility value others above yourselves**, not looking to your own interests but **each of you to the interests of the others.**”

Philippians 2:1-4

13

Things that are hard to figure out about Jesus

The suffering **Son of God**

“Follow me”

14

The Big Idea

**Jesus surrendered His rights
so He wouldn't hinder
people's paths to God**

He expects His disciples to follow Him