

GOSPEL PEARLS

What cages man

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Now when Jesus saw a crowd around him, he gave orders to go over to the other side. And a scribe came up and said to him, "Teacher, I will follow you wherever you go." And Jesus said to him, "Foxes have holes, and birds of the air have nests, but the Son of Man has nowhere to lay his head." Another of the disciples said to him, "Lord, let me first go and bury my father." And Jesus said to him, "Follow me, and leave the dead to bury their own dead." (Matthew 8: 18-22)

Jesus warns those who wish to go with Him about what it means to follow Him faithfully. As disciples, we must put love for Jesus as God above all else, even above our own material needs (e.g. a home to take shelter in) and emotional needs (e.g. love from those we care about). Jesus does not forget the importance of these human needs but makes them even more important by relating them to our journeys in search for the Kingdom of God. Let us not forget when life is reduced to the mere pursuit of satisfying human needs, we cage man in despair. It makes us lose sight of the principal goal of our lives: entering paradise. How many times last week did you think about your goal of entering the Kingdom of Heaven?