

CouplesInBloom.com – With Or Hither?

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God commands “Study earnestly to present yourself approved to God, a workman that does not need to be ashamed, rightly dividing the Word of Truth.” ⇨ 2 Timothy 2:15. It is extra important for those of us with dumbed-down languages such as English to study, working diligently, as our own tongue leaves out importance distinguished in the native tongue of Scripture (not to mention cultural and historical context). One example: follow.

Jesus used *different* words which are unfortunately mainstreamed into the *same* word **follow** in English. The word **come** is also lumped into it! *THIS* is why we work to study!

- Come **hither**: *the imperative statement; a strong, obligatory requirement*:
 - “**Follow** me and I will make you fishers of men.” ⇨ Matthew 4:19; Mark 1:17.
 - “**Come** to Me all you who labor and are heavy laden, and I will give you rest.” ⇨ Matthew 11:28.
 - “And He said to them, **Come** aside into a deserted place and rest a little” ⇨ Mark 6:31a.
- Be **with**: *to accompany, to be in the same way*:
 - “Then Jesus said to His disciples, If anyone desires to come after Me, let him deny himself and take up his cross and **follow** Me.” ⇨ Matthew 16:24.
 - “And he who does not take up his cross and **follow** Me is not worthy of Me” ⇨ Matthew 10:38.
 - “Jesus said to him, If you want to be perfect, go, sell what you have and give to the poor, and you shall have treasure in Heaven. And come, **follow** Me.” ⇨ Matthew 19:21.

Understand the difference between these two, now that we got past the English language barrier, and realized that there even IS a difference in the Word of God. Questions for us:

- ♥ “Are we merely **with** God, **or** do we come **hither**(!) to God?”
- ♥ “Do we **just do** Christian stuff, **or** are our **hearts intense** to see the lost saved?”
- ♥ “Are we **so passionate** for God that He tells us, “You minister so intensely for Me and the souls I died for; **Come away with Me*** and **take a little rest**; be refreshed.”

Please be protected from the lethal lullaby of this wicked world... including the Christian edition of this satanic lullaby: **nominal**. What Jesus Christ did for us is **intense**. God gave us a choice if and how to respond to His love, yet it is also true that the absolute least He deserves is everything we are and have. He confirms that with helpful words like, “come **hither**!” which, even those, He hides in reserve only for those hungry enough to diligently obey ⇨ 2 Timothy 2:15. Although our option, this is pivotal to God’s heart.

If this seems heavy to you, you missed the point entirely. Religiosity is depressing, but relationship with God is more exciting than anything... because God created it that way. Yet, God forever honors His free will gift to us, even though it cost Jesus’ life and hurts God to see those who reject His love go to hell. “Come **hither**!” to God, not *merely with*!

* A song: “**Come Away With Me**”: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=6d4Nenj13sA> ♥