

## What Brand Would Jesus Chew?

Many Christians use tobacco. As a matter of fact just a few decades ago, the use of tobacco was readily acceptable in our society. So much so that many church members thought nothing of lighting up or taking a chew just as soon as they shook the preacher's hand and walked outside the church building. Even though times have changed and our society is not quite as receptive to tobacco use as it once was, many Christians still use it and are in most cases addicted to it. Look at the following fictional accounts of the life of Jesus, then ask yourself if this is the kind of example Jesus left for us to follow:

- \* As Jesus walked along the shore, he stop to spit out his dip of Skoal, then called to Peter & John, "Come, follow me."
- \* Stopping at Jacob's well, Jesus took out a cigarette and asked the Samaritan woman who was drawing water, "You gotta light?"
- \* Jesus told the disciples to go into Jerusalem and find the colt that was tied that had never been ridden, and while they were in town, pick up a new pouch of Beechnut cause he just took the last chew.
- \* After they had eaten the Passover, Jesus and his disciples went out for a smoke.
- \* While praying in the garden, He became very distraught. "Boy, I sure could use a smoke." Jesus thought to himself.
- \* Before they crucified Him, they gave him a final cigarette.

You may be saying to yourself right now, "That's the most absurd thing I've ever read. It's almost sacrilege." You know what, you're right. But as we consider smoking, chewing and dipping ask yourself, "Is tobacco use acceptable behavior for the Christian?" "If I use tobacco, am I being the best Christian example to those around me, including children and young people?" The bible teaches that we are to follow Jesus' example. "*He who says he abides in Him ought himself also to walk just as He walked.*" (1 John 2:6) and be as much like Him as we possibly can.

*Let your light so shine before men, that they may see your good works  
and glorify your Father in heaven.*

*Matthew 5:16*

*Jay Launius  
Maud church of Christ  
Maud, Texas*