

# Jesus Follow Me!

Jn. 18-25

Truly, truly, I say to you, when you were young, you used to dress yourself and walk wherever you wanted, but when you are old, you will stretch out your hands, and another will dress you and carry you where you do not want to go.” (This he said to show by what kind of death he was to glorify God.) And after saying this he said to him, “Follow me.”

Peter turned and saw the disciple whom Jesus loved following them, the one who also had leaned back against him during the supper and had said, “Lord, who is it that is going to betray you?” When Peter saw him, he said to Jesus, “Lord, what about this man?” Jesus said to him, “If it is my will that he remain until I come, what is that to you?

You follow me!”

So the saying spread abroad among the brothers that this disciple was not to die; yet Jesus did not say to him that he was not to die, but, “If it is my will that he remain until I come, what is that to you?”

This is the disciple who is bearing witness about these things, and who has written these things, and we know that his testimony is true.

Now there are also many other things that Jesus did. Were every one of them to be written, I suppose that the world itself could not contain the books that would be written.

Jn. 20:31

but these are written so that you may believe that Jesus is the Christ, the Son of God, and that by believing you may have life in his name.

## **1. Follow Jesus...**

### **NO matter what happens**

Truly, truly, I say to you when you were young, you used to dress yourself and walk wherever you wanted. Jn. 21:18

Review of Peter's life...

So many changes-

- . From dependence to independence to dependence
- . From weakness to strength to weakness
- . From inability to ability to inability
- . From honor to shame to honor.

Peter was an independent spirit

- . Say what I want
- . Do what I want
- . Go where I want

... but when you are old, you will stretch out your hands and another will dress you and carry you where you do not want to go. (18)

This He said to show by what kind of death he was to glorify God (19)

Can death glorify God?

- how we die
- why we die

The hour has come for the Son of Man to be glorified. Jn. 12:23

... Christ will be honored in my body whether by life or by death. Phil. 1:20

He also recounted a recent discussion he had with his mother about dying: "She said, 'Jeb, I believe in Jesus and He is my Savior. I don't want to leave your dad, but I know I will be

in a beautiful place.”

Barbara Bush

And after saying this He said to him, “Follow Me”  
Present Tense command – “Follow and keep on following!”

- It is who we are
- It is what we do

My sheep hear my voice and I know them and they follow Me.

Jn. 10:27

Jesus know our past, present, and future. Jesus doesn't tell Peter every detail of his future- just one thing – “Follow Me!”

Love never asks how much must I do,  
but how much can I do.

“If we live, we live to the Lord and if we die, we die to the Lord.” Rom. 14:8

6,315 churches have been closed in Rwanda by the government since Feb. claiming building code violations and noise pollution!

## **2. Follow Jesus...**

### **No matter what others do.**

Peter turned and saw the disciple whom Jesus loved following them, the one who had been reclining at table close to Him and had said, "Lord who is it that is going to betray?"

Jn. 21:20

The disciple whom Jesus loved

- not excluding others
- not boasting
- one thing I want everyone to know  
JESUS loves me!

When Peter saw him, he said to Jesus,  
"Lord, what about this man?"

- Wants "fair" treatment
- Wants "fair" job assignments
- Wants "fair" expectations
- Wants fair rewards

Comparison addiction?

My value is based on a comparison with others

- . My identity
- . My purpose

. My choices

Now appoint for us a king to judge us like all the nations.

1 Sam. 8:5

Jesus said to him, “If it is my will that he remain until I come, what is that to you? You follow Me!” (22)

Keep a close watch on yourself.

1 Tim. 4:16

Let a person examine himself.

1 Cor. 11:28

But let each one test his own work.

Gal 6:4

Each will have to bear his own load

(5)

Peter’s future ministry

. Helps Mark write one of the gospels

. Preaches – Day of Pentecost

3,000 saved

. Conversion of Cornelius

. Miraculous escape from jail

. Writes I & II Peter

. Dies a martyr

“I’m happy tonight. I’m not worried about anything. I’m not fearing any man. Mine eyes have seen the glory of the coming of the Lord.”

Martin Luther King Jr.

(Day before his assassination)

So the saying spread among the brothers that this disciple was not to die; yet Jesus did not say to him that he was not to die, but “If it is My will that he remain until I come, what is that to you?” (23)

### **3. Follow Jesus...**

**No matter what others say.**

This is the disciple who is bearing witness about these things who has written these things and we know that his testimony is true. Jn. 21:24

Now there are also many other things that Jesus did. Were every one of them written, I suppose that the world itself could not contain the books that would be written. (24)

John’s testimony is true  
but not exhaustive.

Now Jesus did many other signs in the presence of the disciples, which are not written in this book;

Jn. 20:30

Biblical faith is not a blind leap without any evidence of truth.

“Events that we commonly call miracles are not supernatural, but are part of a spectrum of more-or-less improbable natural events. A miracle in other words, if it occurs at all, is a tremendous stroke of luck. “

Richard Dawkins – The Blind Watchmaker

94,792,000 Americans are convinced that God has performed at least one miracle for them personally.

55% of U.S. physicians have seen results that they would consider miraculous.

90% of the growth in the church in China is connected to healings.

More Muslims have become Christians in the last couple of decades than in the previous 1400 years since Muhammad. (1/3 of them have had a dream or vision of Jesus)

The Case for Miracles by Lee Strobel

Evidence of Miracles

. Creation itself – precise and perfect design

- . Historical reliability
- . Manuscript integrity
- . Personal impact – changed lives

But these are written so that you may believe that Jesus is the Christ, the Son of God. (31)

... and that by believing you may have life in His name. (31)

Miracles exist not for their own sake but for us – to point toward something beyond - to Someone beyond.”

Eric Metaxas