



October 13, 2013

## A Disciple and His Love

*John 21:18-22*

The main purpose of John's writings was that his readers might believe that Jesus was the Christ, the Son of the living God; and that in believing they may have life in His name. The call to follow Jesus Christ is a personal call. No one else can do that for you.

Your decision to follow Jesus is your decision, and your decision NOT to follow Jesus is your decision. But consider another good question: are you a person worth following?

Many of God's people cannot get around to following Jesus because we are too busy following others.

### ***What Does It Mean To Follow Jesus Christ?***

#### **I. Following Christ is a Personal Decision**

##### **A. Following Christ Means Surrendering To a Person and Not to a Program**

- Jesus didn't call you to a program, He called you to Himself.

##### **B. Following Christ is a Non-Negotiated Truth**

You cannot follow anyone until you are close enough to them to see which way they are going.

- Jesus Christ did not go through the crucifixion just to come back from the dead and negotiate with us the way to live. God is not a negotiator.

#### **II. Following Christ is a Progressive Decision**

**Philippians 3:7-8 (NASB77)** *But whatever things were gain to me, those things I have counted as loss for the sake of Christ. <sup>8</sup> More than that, I count all things to be loss in view of the surpassing value of knowing Christ Jesus my Lord, for whom I have suffered the loss of all things, and count them but rubbish in order that I may gain Christ.*

- Unless your surrender to Jesus Christ overshadows every other commitment you have in life, you are not a follower of Jesus Christ.

- The Disciple's Question:  
Is there anything in your life that you consider to be of more significance than Jesus Christ?

- The goal of salvation isn't simply to go to heaven when we die; the goal is to be conformed to the image of Jesus Christ, and to take as many people to heaven with us as we can.

### **III. Following Christ Is a Priority Decision**

- A. **The Talking Disciple** (Luke 9:57-58)
- B. **The Procrastinating Disciple** (Luke 9:59)
- C. **The Undecided Disciple** (Luke 9:61)