

Christian life leadership is following the leadership of Christ.

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What does Jesus Christ expect from our follow-ship?

# 1. To follow Christ alone – "Me" (Jn 21:22)

- Jesus said to Peter, "You follow me."
- No one else! Jesus Christ is our only Lord & Savior our personal God. Follow & worship Him alone.
- Keep our eyes on Jesus Christ.
  Don't follow self, feelings, fear, people's opinions, . . .
  Don't be ashamed of Christ but say, "I believe in Jesus Christ."

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**BayLife Community Church** 

#### John 21:18-22 (ESV)

<sup>18</sup> 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." <sup>19</sup> (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."

<sup>20</sup> 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?" <sup>21</sup> When Peter saw him, he said to Jesus, "Lord, what about this man?" <sup>22</sup> Jesus said to him, "If it is my will that he remain until I come, what is that to you? You follow me!"

1. To follow Christ alone – "Me" (Jn 21:22)

## 2. To follow Christ's way alone – "Follow Me" (Jn 21:22)

- Follow Christ's teachings & His agenda without compromise "Follow" = adhering to the teachings or instructions of a leader and promoting the cause of such a leader. [LN]
- Peter must adopt Christ's agenda to become his and lay aside his own agenda – pastor Christ's church instead of overthrowing Rome. e.g. evangelizing Cornelius' household (Acts 10)
- We are following Christ to accomplish His agenda, not ours (Eph. 2:10). We don't need an ideal life situation to do that.
- Ask yourself, "What does Christ wants me to do for Him?"
  "What am I willing to do for Christ?"

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### John 21:15-17

<sup>15</sup> When they had finished breakfast, Jesus said to Simon Peter, "Simon, son of John, do you love me more than these?" He said to him, "Yes, Lord; you know that I love you." He said to him, "Feed my lambs." 16 He said to him a second time, "Simon, son of John, do you love me?" He said to him, "Yes, Lord; you know that I love you." He said to him, "Tend my sheep." 17 He said to him the third time, "Simon, son of John, do you love me?" Peter was grieved because he said to him the third time, "Do you love me?" and he said to him, "Lord, you know everything; you know that I love you." Jesus said to him, "Feed my sheep."

.... <sup>22</sup> Jesus said to him, "If it is my will that he remain until I come, what is that to you? You follow me!"

### Eph 2:8-10 (CSB)

<sup>8</sup> For you are saved by grace through faith, and this is not from yourselves; it is God's gift — <sup>9</sup> not from works, so that no one can boast. <sup>10</sup> For we are his workmanship, created in Christ Jesus for good works, which God prepared ahead of time for us to do.

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- 1. To follow Christ alone "Me" (Jn 21:22)
- 2. To follow Christ's way alone "Follow Me" (Jn 21:22)

# 3. To follow Christ by our own selves – "You" (Jn 21:22)

- Focus! Don't be distracted by how other Christians are backsliding.
  Don't be ashamed of / embarrassed by your follow-ship of Christ.
- "YOU" follow Christ. Don't mind others.
  Peter was concerned about John's future martyrdom or not.
  But, Jesus said to him, "What is that to you? You follow me."
- Life leadership = Making wise choices in order to enable yourself to follow Christ faithfully, single-mindedly.
- e.g. High school/college students going to Christian schools or not. Remember, "You follow Christ" regardless of people around you.

#### John 21:20-22

<sup>20</sup> 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?" <sup>21</sup> When Peter saw him, he said to Jesus, "Lord, what about this man?" <sup>22</sup> Jesus said to him, "If it is my will that he remain until I come, what is that to you? You follow me!"

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### **Conclusion**

- Vance Havner said, "The Christian life should be like a sword with one point, not like a broom ending in many straws. Such a single purpose forgets the past, reaches toward the future, and presses on. There is no time or place for side issues, diversions to the right or to the left. There is no place for hands on the plow with eyes looking back. Paul was a one-track man, but you can go a long way on one track!" --- Let your pinpoint life focus be "following Christ."
- My father said to me, "If you want to be a Christian, then be a good Christian!" I'll say to you today, "If you want to be a follower of Christ, then be a good follower for life!" YOU FOLLOW CHRIST.

Sharing & Praying Together

When following Jesus Christ, every Christian would likely experience ups & downs in his/her Christian life.

Please share a high point and a low point of your Christian life.

What helped you to keep walking with Christ during your low point? (What decisions did you make? What steps did you take?)

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