

## FOLLOW ME

Part III – 9:00 AM

August 21, 2011

*Pastor Gerald McGinnis*

**John 21:18-22(NIV)** <sup>18</sup> Very truly I tell you, when you were younger you dressed yourself and went where you wanted; but when you are old you will stretch out your hands, and someone else will dress you and lead you where you do not want to go.” <sup>19</sup> Jesus said this to indicate the kind of death by which Peter would glorify God. Then he said to him, “Follow me!” (Peter will be crucified).

<sup>20</sup> Peter turned and saw that the disciple whom Jesus loved (Who’s the author of this book, he’s writing about himself?) was following them. (This was the one who had leaned back against Jesus at the supper and had said, “Lord, who is going to betray you?”) <sup>21</sup> When Peter saw him, he asked, “Lord, what about him?” (He the pet the favorite)

<sup>22</sup> Jesus answered, “If I want him to remain alive until I return, what is that to you? You must follow me.” (Rumor was Jesus said John would never die)

1. Follow Me regardless of personal destiny.
2. Follow Me regardless of the destiny of others.

### Follow me!

It all boils down to three basic elements and you will either struggle with these three or you will understand and conquer in life by **love, trust and obedience**. And the truth is, it all goes back to LOVE. **LOVE is the most powerful force on this earth.**

People steal, they kill, commit suicide, stalk and lose all sense of reasoning because of love –whether pure and impure, **Love is a controlling dominate factor of our daily life.**

Be extremely careful to whom you give your love because when you give your love you give that person the ability to influence and at times to control your life.

What caused Jesus to make this statement to Peter? There a lot of history here.

**John 18:15-27 (NIV)**

**15** Simon Peter and another disciple were following Jesus. Because this disciple was known to the high priest (**John**), he went with Jesus into the high priest's courtyard, **16** but Peter had to wait outside at the door. The other disciple, who was known to the high priest, came back, spoke to the girl on duty there and brought Peter in (**John**). (John is the man)

**17** "You are not one of his disciples, are you?" the girl at the door asked Peter.

He replied, "I am not." #1

**18** It was cold, and the servants and officials stood around a fire they had made to keep warm. Peter also was standing with them, warming himself.

**19** Meanwhile, the high priest questioned Jesus about his disciples and his teaching.

**20** "I have spoken openly to the world," Jesus replied. "I always taught in synagogues or at the temple, where all the Jews come together. I said nothing in secret. **21** Why question me? Ask those who heard me. Surely they know what I said."

**22** When Jesus said this, one of the officials nearby struck him in the face. "Is this the way you answer the high priest?" he demanded.

**23** "If I said something wrong," Jesus replied, "testify as to what is wrong. But if I spoke the truth, why did you strike me?" **24** Then Annas sent him, still bound, to Caiaphas the high priest. **b**

**25** As Simon Peter stood warming himself, he was asked, "You are not one of his disciples, are you?"

He denied it, saying, "I am not." #2

**26** One of the high priest's servants, a relative of the man whose ear Peter had cut off, challenged him, "Didn't I see you with him in the olive grove?" **27** Again Peter denied it, #3 and at that moment a rooster began to crow.

**John 21:15-19 (NIV)**

**15** When they had finished eating, Jesus said to Simon Peter, "**Simon son of John, do you truly love me more than these?**"

"Yes, Lord," he said, "you know that I love you."

Jesus said, "**Feed my lambs.**"

**16** Again Jesus said, "**Simon son of John, do you truly love me?**"

He answered, "Yes, Lord, you know that I love you."

Jesus said, "**Take care of my sheep.**"

**17** The third time he said to him, "**Simon son of John, do you love me?**"

Peter was hurt because Jesus asked him the third time, "Do you love me?" He said, "Lord, you know all things; you know that I love you."

Jesus said, "**Feed my sheep. 18 I tell you the truth, when you were younger you dressed yourself and went where you wanted; but when you are old you will stretch out your hands, and someone else will dress you and lead you where you do not want to go.**" **19** Jesus said this to indicate the kind of death by which Peter would glorify God. Then he said to him, "**Follow me!**"

**agapao** (ag-ap-ah'-o); perhaps from agan (much) [or compare OT:5689]; **to love (in a social or moral sense):**

**phileo** (fil-eh'-o); from NT:5384; **to be a friend to** (fond of [an individual or an object]), i.e. **have affection for** (denoting personal attachment, as a matter of sentiment or feeling; while NT:25 is wider, embracing especially the judgment and the deliberate assent of the will as a matter of principle, duty and propriety: the two thus stand related very much as NT:2309 and NT:1014, or as NT:2372 and NT:3563 respectively; the former being chiefly of the heart and the latter of the head); specifically, to kiss (as a mark of tenderness):

**John 21:22 (NKJV)**

<sup>22</sup> Jesus said to him, "If I will that he remain till I come, what *is that* to you? **You follow Me.**"

What does it mean **to follow Jesus**, what does that look like?

**1. Stop comparing yourself with others. That will drive you crazy.**

**2 Corinthians 10:12(NIV)** <sup>12</sup> We do not dare to classify or compare ourselves with some who commend themselves. When they measure themselves by themselves and compare themselves with themselves, they are not wise.

Two things to write down;

**A. Stop looking at what you do not have and start looking at what you do have.**

**B. Stop thinking and talking about who you are not and start thinking and talking about who you are.**