

FEED MY SHEEP

John 21:1-25

This is a series about what happens when you REALLY follow Jesus. We are seeking to accomplish this by examining the lives of the 12 young men that literally walked with Jesus. Their life goal was simple: wake up and follow Jesus wherever He went. So, this is our heritage: Go where He goes; stay where He stays; eat when He eats; pray when He prays; and say what He says. So, our life has become amazingly simple – FOLLOW HIM.

John 21 begins with seven of the disciples led by Simon Peter deciding, after the resurrection, to return to business as usual. They were obviously failures as disciples of Jesus. They had hoped that He would have been the one to “pull off” the great prophecies that were spoken concerning the Messiah, but their hope was in past tense. They had lost hope now. Maybe they could go back to their former life. After all, they had been successful professional fishermen. If they were failures as progenitors of this new Kingdom of God, maybe they could be successful as competent, experienced businessmen. Jesus had other plans for them and met them on the shore of their dilemma challenging Peter as only HE could.

THREE *More* **OBSERVATIONS THAT REVEAL THE TRUTH ABOUT FOLLOWING JESUS**

1st Observation

We are following a person, not an idea.

vs. 15-17

Ideas are wonderful! Everything we enjoy in life is there because someone had an idea. God celebrates ideas, but we are not following an idea; we are following Jesus! What's the difference?

Observation #2

We are following a person with a strong will.

vs. 18-19

Jesus wants His own way! The great thing about it is...His way is perfect. The old refrigerator quote says, “If you want to see God laugh, show Him your plans.” We know this, but we do it anyway.

Observation #3

We are all following the same person, but we are not all following the same path.

vs. 20-22

John begins this Gospel with, “In the beginning was the WORD, and the WORD was with God, and the WORD was God.” We're all following that WORD... that Truth ... that Savior, but we're not all following the same path. Do you know when walking with Jesus gets complicated and confusing? It's when you *start* focusing on your path or someone else's path and *stop* focusing on the person (Jesus) you're committed to follow. It's challenging to embrace the path God has you on!