

Third Baptist Church
April 21, 2020
Youth Bible Study
Rev. Vernon
Outside the Walls

John 21: 22
You follow me!

Last week we looked at the Gospel according to Mark and the mission that Jesus gave or left for the disciples after the Resurrection. I hope that you have the chance to complete the handout, you encouraged someone else in the Lord and even started to journal through this experience, citing one positive thing.

This week, we will journey over to the Gospel according to John. This story makes so much sense, but is less often followed. The scene is after the Resurrection, here Jesus has appeared to Peter to have a little talk with him and see where his head is. Moving further in the chapter John appears and Peter begins to question why John is following them. Jesus instructs Peter not to worry of who else is following them, but for him to focus on him (Peter) following Jesus. I am not sure how many of you are like Peter and have questioned why someone else is following Jesus? Oftentimes we would like Jesus to be our own. As if, there aren't enough of his blessings to go around. But I am assured that there is enough of Jesus to go around. Jesus is the like the best gift ever to be given and we should not want to keep him all to ourselves. John knew what was good for him and that was Jesus. Peter was still recovering from Jesus wanting to be with him following his failure on Good Friday. What mistake did Peter make on Good Friday? (hint: it's in John 18:15-19)

Have you been more like Peter __ one who questions everything or John __ who accepts and follows? There is no wrong answer. Both are in the scene with Jesus and are in good graces with Jesus. The key is grow from wherever we may find ourselves. God is always up to something new, allow this moment in your faith formation to be just that for you. Jesus wanted Peter to follow him and not focus on anyone else. We are isolated right from others. Take this season to work on following Jesus. What ways can I improve in my followership of Jesus? Be as honest with yourself as you can.

1 _____ 2 _____
3 _____

Why was it important that Peter was restored/forgiven by Jesus?

_____Where or who do you go to find forgiveness? Why?

_____If you were newly forgiven, would you worry about why others were being forgiven?

_____If you were newly given the opportunity to walk with Jesus, would you worry about who else was walking with Jesus? Why or why not?

Over the next week, think about who you can share Jesus with. If Jesus is the best thing we have ever had, we should want all to get to know Jesus. Christianity isn't just something to keep to ourselves, but something that will make all of us better. But I don't want you to follow Jesus just because someone else is following, but because it's the best decision for your life. Think about this week who you can share Jesus with. If you shared Jesus with someone last week, continue to share with that person and consider sharing with one additional person. Write the names of those people you are sharing Jesus with here:

I have found that I don't have to share a scripture or even an entire book of the Bible, but I can share a smile or even an encouraging word in a tough season. Jesus is present in all we do, out of a cheerful and God-centered heart. Until next week continue in your journaling. If you haven't started, there is still time to start. Start with whatever is on your mind and just allow the pencil/pen to move from there.