

Walking with God - Never Alone 5: Leaders

June 20-21 Father's Day 2020

John 10:7-10 (NKJV) ⁷ Then Jesus said to them again, "Most assuredly, I say to you, I am the door of the sheep. ⁸ All who *ever* came before Me are thieves and robbers, but the sheep did not hear them. ⁹ I am the door. If anyone enters by Me, he will be saved, and will go in and out and find pasture. ¹⁰ The thief does not come except to steal, and to kill, and to destroy. I have come that they may have life, and that they may have *it more abundantly*."






I. The Invitation to Follow Jesus - God

Matthew 4:18-20 (NIV) ¹⁸ As Jesus was walking beside the Sea of Galilee, he saw two brothers, Simon called Peter and his brother Andrew. They were casting a net into the lake, for they were fishermen. ¹⁹ "**Come, follow me,**" Jesus said, "and I will send you out to fish for people." ²⁰ At once they left their nets and followed him.

Luke 18:22 (NKJV) ²² So when Jesus heard these things, He said to him, "You still lack one thing. Sell all that you have and distribute to the poor, and you will have treasure in heaven; and **come, follow Me.**"

John 14:6 (NIV) ⁶ Jesus answered, "**I am the way and the truth and the life.** No one comes to the Father except through me."

Five Characteristics of Good Followers:

-  Personal relationship (John 15:14-15)
-  Respect authority (Mark 1:22)
-  Trust (Matthew 14:27-29)
-  Ambition (1 Timothy 3:1)
-  Purpose/Direction (John 14:12; Acts 1:8)

Acts 1:8 (NIV) ⁸ But you will receive power when the Holy Spirit comes on you; and you will be my witnesses in Jerusalem, and in all Judea and Samaria, and to the ends of the earth."

II. Great Followers:

Luke 9:23-24 (NIV) ²³ Then he said to them all: "Whoever wants to be my disciple must deny themselves and take up their cross daily and follow me. ²⁴ For whoever wants to save their life will lose it, but whoever loses their life for me will save it."

- A. Abraham - **Father of a Nation** (Gen 12:1-2)
- B. Joseph - **Rescued his Family** (Gen 45:7-8)
- C. Moses - **Delivers a Nation** (Ex 3:8-10)
- D. **Ezra** - **Rebuilds a Temple** (Ezra 4:4-5)
- E. **Esther** - **Queen intercedes for Jews** (Esth 4:12-16)
- F. **Peter** - **Strength for the Church** (John 21:15-16)
- G. Paul - **Messenger to the Godless** (Acts 13:47)

III. How Should We Respond?

Ezekiel 22:30 (NIV) ³⁰ "I looked for someone among them who would build up the wall and stand before me in the gap on behalf of the land so I would not have to destroy it, but I found no one."

Matthew 16:18 (NIV) ¹⁸ "...I will build my church, and the gates of Hades will not overcome it."

Prayer: Heavenly Father, thank You for opening my eyes. I choose to follow, to cooperate, with the Holy Spirit. May my life be a testimony to the grace and power of Jesus. I choose Your truth and ways. I say no to "selfishness" and yes to Your invitations. Thank You for setting me free to serve Your kingdom here on earth. In Jesus' name, Amen.

This Week's Bible Readings (Use the TCND App if you want to listen):

- Sat Rest Sun Luke 6:17-26; Neh 4-6 Mon Luke 6:27-36; Neh 7
- Tue Luke 6:37-42; Neh 8-9 Wed Luke 6:43-49; Neh 10-11
- Thur Luke 7:1-10; Neh 12-13 Fri Luke 7:11-17; Est 1-5 Sat Rest