

Your Life as Jesus' Disciple

John 21:15-25

FROM PASTOR MARK

Welcome to the conclusion of the Gospel of John and our recent series on *Knowing Christ in Suffering and Glory*. Next week, Pastor Phillip will launch our next series on the Book of Esther, *Silent Sovereignty*.

Our mission as a church is “to make Christ-like disciples who love God, God’s Word, God’s people, and God’s world.” Are you Christ’s disciple? Are you a disciple-maker? As Peter learned in John 21 on the seashore of Galilee, discipleship is all about a very personal relationship between you and the Lord Jesus Himself.

I. THE MOTIVATION OF OUR DISCIPLESHIP: LOVING (21:15-17)

- A. Personal Love
- B. Public Love
- C. Expressed Love (through service to His Church)

II. THE DEDICATION OF OUR DISCIPLESHIP: SACRIFICING (21:18-19)

- A. God’s Sovereignty in Suffering (18)
- B. The Extent of Suffering (19)
- C. The Call to Suffering (19b, “follow Me...”)

III. THE DESCRIPTION OF OUR DISCIPLESHIP: FOLLOWING (21:20-25)

- A. The Distraction from Discipleship (20-21)
- B. The Focus of Discipleship (22-23)
- C. The Individuality of Discipleship (24-25)

The Faith of John 20:30-31 produces the life of DISCIPLESHIP:

- 1. Your Loving
- 2. Your Sacrificing
- 3. Your Following

FOR NEXT TIME—Read Esther 1, *Silent Sovereignty*

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS FOR APRIL 21, 2024

- 1. As we conclude our series in the Gospel of John today, think back and share with others a favorite verse or passage from this important Book.
- 2. Review IBC’s mission statement: “to make Christ-like disciples who love God, God’s Word, God’s people, and God’s world.” Do you think that most believers understand that they are expected to be growing as a Christ-like disciple?
- 3. Read John 21:15-17. Picture Jesus asking you three times about your love for Him. How would you answer?

4. Read John 21:20-25. When are you most tempted to fall into the trap of comparison with other Christians and how can you combat it?
5. Since living as a Christian is all about a personal relationship with Jesus Himself, what step could you take to be closer to Him?
6. If discipling means, "one Christian helping another to grow in their relationship with Christ," how can each of us be doing that?