



Do You Love Jesus? “Life in His Name” Series

John 21:15-25, p.907

November 24, 2019

Pastor Mickey Klink

Introduction

In this passage God instructs his church on what it looks like to follow Jesus.

The Text: John 21:15-25

1) A Christian’s love of Christ is expressed by acts of obedience (vv. 15-17).

How should we understand God’s commands for obedience?

(1) Symbol – obedience is replaced by faith

(2) Advice – obedience is added to faith

(3) Evidence – obedience is proof of faith

(4) Organic – obedience is the flowering of faith

**Eph. 2:8-10: ⁸ For by grace you have been saved through faith. And this is not your own doing; it is the gift of God, ⁹ not a result of works, so that no one may boast. ¹⁰ For we are his workmanship, created in Christ Jesus for good works, which God prepared beforehand, that we should walk in them.*

**1 Jn 3:10: By this it is evident who are the children of God, and who are the children of the devil: whoever does not practice righteousness is not of God, nor is the one who does not love his brother.*

**1 Jn 4:12: No one has ever seen God; if we love one another, God abides in us and his love is perfected in us.*

2) God uses everything in our lives, the good and the bad, to bring glory to himself (vv. 18-19)

**Rom. 12:1-2: I appeal to you therefore, brothers, by the mercies of God, to present your bodies as a living sacrifice, holy and acceptable to God, which is your spiritual worship. ² Do not be conformed to this world, but be transformed by the renewal of your mind, that by testing you may discern what is the will of God, what is good and acceptable and perfect.*

3) Christians must submit to God’s will for their lives without comparison with others (vv. 20-23).

4) The reader of the Gospel of John is invited to believe in and follow Jesus (vv. 24-25).

Response

After reading the Gospel of John, we too are invited by Jesus: “Follow me.”

Sunday Text Questions for John 21:15-25

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- 1) Starter Question: We know we are saved by faith and not by works, so what role does obedience play in the life of a Christian?
- 2) Read the text aloud and discuss together any significant observations or issues needing clarification.
- 3) Jesus questions Peter on his love for him (vv. 15-17). Honestly, how would you feel and respond if Jesus asked you if you loved him?
- 4) After being asked if he loved Jesus, Peter is then commanded to serve Jesus (vv. 15-17). How should we think about the relationship between our faith in Jesus and our obedience to Jesus?
- 5) Read Eph. 2:8-10, 1 Jn. 3:10, and 1 Jn. 4:12. What do these verses teach us about the relation between faith and obedience?
- 6) Jesus tells Peter that he will be martyred later in life, and that it is a way he would glorify God (vv. 18-19). How would you respond to such a prophecy, and are you willing to give your life for God (cf. Rom. 12:1-2)?
- 7) What does it mean “to glorify God,” and how is God glorified in both the good and bad things in our life?
- 8) Peter wanted to compare his suffering life assignment to another disciple (vv. 20-23). How does Jesus respond to his question, and what does it teach us?
- 9) How can we trust God in our particular life assignment and not compare it to the life assignments of other Christians?
- 10) How has the Gospel of John helped you grow in your understanding of Jesus and/or the Christian life?

Further study this week: Spend the week reading 1 John (all five chapters: one chapter each day, Mon-Fri), written by the author of the Gospel of John, to see how the message of John’s Gospel is applied to Christians and the Christian life.