

- Your response to Jesus shapes your **experience** of Jesus, and your **impact** for Jesus. "I tell you the truth, when you were young, you were able to do as you liked; you dressed yourself and went wherever you wanted to go. But when you are old, you will stretch out your hands, and others will dress you and take you where you don't want to go." 19 Jesus said this to let him know by what kind of death he would glorify God. Then Jesus told him, "Follow me." John 21:18-19

- Jesus revealed Peter's death to make the cost of following Him **unmistakable**—and to show that a follower's life exists to **glorify God**, even in suffering.

20 Peter turned around and saw behind them the disciple Jesus loved—the one who had leaned over to Jesus during supper and asked, "Lord, who will betray you?" 21 Peter asked Jesus, "**What about him, Lord?**" 22 Jesus replied, "If I want him to remain alive until I return, what is that to you? As for you, follow me." 23 So the rumor spread among the community of believers that this disciple wouldn't die. But that isn't what Jesus said at all. He only said, "If I want him to remain alive until I return, what is that to you?" John 21:20-23

<sup>2</sup> So she [Mary] came running to Simon Peter and the other disciple, the one Jesus loved, and said, "They have taken the Lord out of the tomb, and we don't know where they have put him!" <sup>3</sup> So Peter and the other disciple started for the tomb. <sup>4</sup> Both were running, but the other disciple outran Peter and reached the tomb first...<sup>6</sup> Then Simon Peter came along behind him and went straight into the tomb...<sup>8</sup> Finally the other disciple, who had reached the tomb first, also went inside. John 20:2-4, 6, 8

24 A dispute also arose among them (*The disciples*) as to which of them was considered to be greatest. Luke 24:24

20 Peter turned around and saw behind them the disciple Jesus loved... 21 Peter asked Jesus, "What about him, Lord?" 22 Jesus replied, "If I want him to remain alive until I return, what is that to you? As for you, follow me." John 21:20-22

**To follow Jesus rather than others:**

- Understand that **Jesus has called you**, and His calling is designed just for you. <sup>10</sup> For we are God's masterpiece. He has created us anew in Christ Jesus, so we can do the good things he planned for us long ago. Ephesians 2:10

**Action Step:**  
Identify the **work** God has given specifically to you?

- Don't compare your **calling** and your **sacrifice** to others. 4 Pay careful attention to your own work, for then you will get the satisfaction of a job well done, and you won't need to compare yourself to anyone else. 5 For we are each responsible for our own conduct. Galatians 6:4-5  
1 I plead with you to give your bodies to God because of all he has done for you. Let them be a living and holy sacrifice—the kind he will find acceptable. This is truly the way to worship him. Romans 12:1

**Action Step:**  
**Thank God** for your calling and sacrifice God has allowed you to glorify Him with.

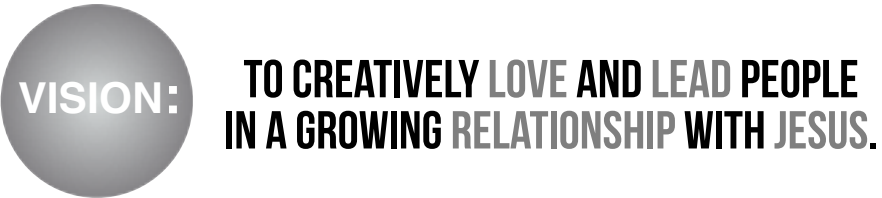
- Keep your eyes on **Jesus** and off **others**. 20 Peter turned and saw that the disciple whom Jesus loved was following them....21 When Peter saw him, he asked, "Lord, what about him?" John 21:20-21  
Keep your eyes on Jesus, who both began and finished this race we're in... Hebrews 12:2 (Msg)

**Action Step:**  
When comparison hits, immediately **redirect** your attention to Jesus.

- Give your **insecurities** to Jesus. 10 Am I now trying to win the approval of human beings, or of God? Or am I trying to please people? If I were still trying to please people, I would not be a servant of Christ. Galatians 1:10

We live from the **scars of our past** rather than Jesus' **scars from the cross**.

**Action step:**  
Stop competing with others and start **celebrating** others.



**Questions that can be used in Connection Groups:**  
*These questions also work well for personal time with God.*

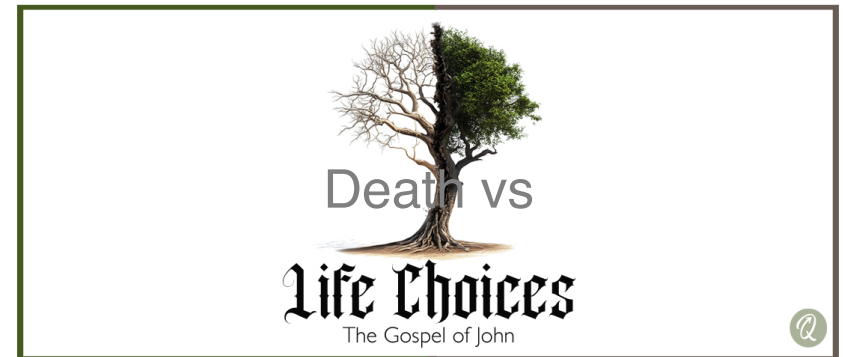
- What scripture and/or point spoke most to you from the Talk on Sunday? Explain.
- Where are you most tempted to compare your life to others right now?
- How have comparisons affected your confidence or your walk with Jesus?
- What do you think Jesus means when He says, "Follow me" to you personally?
- What is one specific calling or responsibility God has given you right now?
- How can you intentionally celebrate someone else instead of comparing yourself to them?
- What helps you keep your focus on Jesus during the week?
- Is there a sacrifice God is asking you to make right now? How are you responding?
- What's one practical step you can take this week to follow Jesus more closely?
- What insecurity do you need to bring to Jesus this week?

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Today's Talk..



**Follow Jesus, Not Others**

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Sunday, April 26th, 2026