

Teaching Notes



LIFEgroup take home curriculum

These questions are based on Pastor *Jake Larson's* sermon on July 20, 2008 titled: "I Will Follow"
Feel free to listen to the sermon again online at: arcadechurchonline.com

I Will Follow: A Journey in Christ-likeness
Condition of the Heart
Matthew 13:44-46

Starter:

- Share an experience in your journey with Jesus where you experienced joy and excitement.
- Were there circumstances that threatened to hinder or stop this experience from occurring?

Deeper:

- Read John 18:25-27. Based on Peter's responses in this scripture did he appear to believe he had anything to gain by identifying his allegiance with Jesus? What did Peter have to gain by choosing to deny Jesus? When the rooster crows what emotions and feelings may have come over Peter?
- Read John 21:15-19. What degree of love does Jesus have for his disciples? As Peter responds to Jesus it seems like he has lost his passion. What emotions were lacking from Peter's responses to Jesus? What do we learn about Jesus' love for his disciples through this encounter with Peter?
- Read 1 Peter 1:1-9. What did Peter come to discover was to gain by choosing obedience to Jesus above the gains of the world?

Application:

- To count the cost is to recognize the abundant gains that come from choosing Jesus over the abundance of the world. In every relationship, experience, and decision this week stop and count the cost. Ask yourself, in which direction is there more to gain? The direction benefiting me in this world or the direction benefiting my journey in the likeness of Jesus.
- In every situation practice asking God for direction, dwelling on the promises of God, and deciding to follow Jesus in your circumstances.
- Pray together as a LIFEgroup that God will grant you the courage and desire to choose eternal gains over the gains of the world.