No Turning Back Sun Am KZ 8/28/22

# Memory Verse: John 6:67-68 NKJV

# 67Then Jesus said to the twelve, “Do you also want to go away?”68But Simon Peter answered Him, “Lord, to whom shall we go? You have the words of eternal life.

Target Thought: We will follow Jesus

When I was a child, "Follow the Leader" was a favorite game. Have you ever played "Follow the Leader?" Of course you have! "Follow the Leader" is a game that is played and enjoyed by children all over the world.

The rules are simple. First, you choose a leader. Then you follow him wherever he goes and do whatever he does. You stomp through puddles, climb over fences, or swing from a tree -- all to stay in the game because nobody wants to be a quitter. No one wants to be a quitter but we need to make sure we follow a good, not a bad leader, after all we don’t want to be led into trouble right?

"Follow the Leader" is a great game, but in our daily lives we play follow the leader too. In school, in Church, in sports, in any activity in which we may participate, there are always leaders. Every day we choose which leader we will follow. What kind of a leader should we want to follow? We should follow a leader who loves us, who knows everything and who has good plans. Who is the only person who is all of these things? That’s right Jesus!

One day Jesus was teaching in the synagogue and he said to the people, "I am the living bread that came down from heaven. He who feeds on this bread will live forever."  That was a difficult teaching for some to understand. When they heard it, they said, "This is a hard teaching. Who can accept it?" Some of them quit following Jesus after that day, they quit following after Jesus because they did not understand and they did not want to learn. Today people still choose not to follow Jesus if they understand or don’t get their way.

Jesus knew that many people were grumbling and complaining, so he turned to the twelve whom he had chosen to be his disciples and said, "You don't want to leave too, do you?"

As usual, it was Peter who spoke up. "Lord, to whom shall we go? You have the words of eternal life. We believe and know that you are the Holy One of God." The disciples had answered the call to follow Jesus. They were not about to turn back now. Is there ever a time for us to decide not to follow Jesus? NO!!

There is a song that some of you may know called "I Have Decided to Follow Jesus." It goes like this:

I have decided to follow Jesus;
I have decided to follow Jesus.
I have decided to follow Jesus;
No turning back, no turning back.

We have decided to follow Jesus. It may not always be easy, but once you have decided to follow him, there is no turning back. What should we do if ever we are tempted by people or situations to stop following Jesus? We should spend more time with Him and learn more about how much He loves us. Once we know how much He loves us It will answer all of our questions.

Dear Jesus, you have called us to follow you. Help us to always follow You." Amen.

How often do we choose a leader to follow?

Is there ever a time for us to decide not to follow Jesus?

What will answer all of our questions?