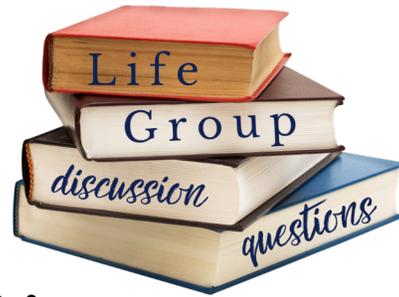


## OPENING DISCUSSION

What does it mean to follow Jesus?  
Can we follow Jesus in our own power?



## SERMON

Why was Peter's boldness misplaced?

Why could Peter (and the other disciples) not follow Jesus at this time? In what way would they follow later?

Why do you think that Jesus told Peter about his forthcoming denials? What was this revelation meant to accomplish?

How did Peter's denials compare to Peter's restoration?

What does following Jesus have to do with a willingness to die for him?

What does Peter's restoration reveal about the nature of God's grace in the lives of believers?

Why is it significant that part of Peter's restoration involves his eventual martyrdom? How would this bring glory to God?

After Peter's questioning by Jesus in John 21:15-19, why do you think Peter was concerned about God's will for John? What does this reveal about our natural inclination to compare ourselves to others?

## APPLICATION

Have you ever made a commitment that you failed to keep? How did you respond?

When you make a mistake of faith to follow Jesus with your whole heart, how should you respond?

Have you experienced the grace of God in your life? What does that look/feel like?

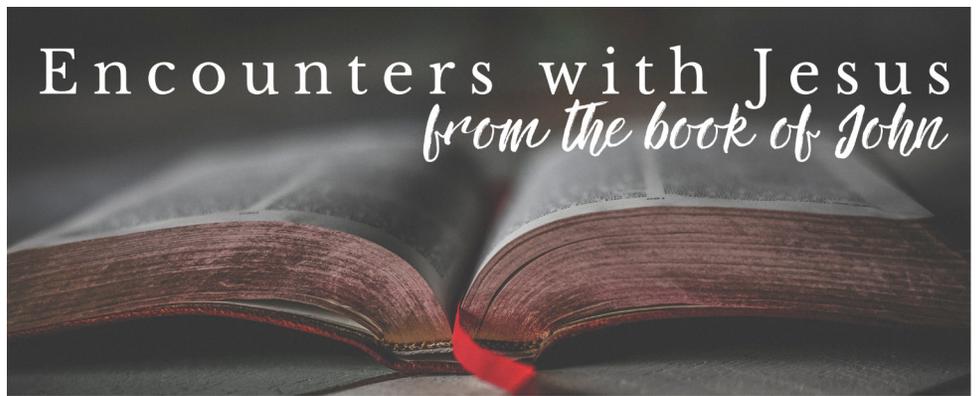
Have you considered what God's will for your life is? How can you truly know what God's will is for your life?

Is there anything that competes for Jesus' love in your life?

Since most of us will never have to face the decision of whether to deny Jesus or die for Him, what does following Jesus look like in today's world?

What is one thing you can do this week to help you understand what it truly means to follow Jesus?

Not a part of a Life Group at North Hills? Visit the church website and check out the different groups currently meeting. When you see one that interests you, click on the link provided and know that everyone will be glad you came!  
<https://church.north-hills.org/connect/small-group-ministry>



## NORTH HILLS CHURCH

- AUGUST 15, 2021 -

### **Passages from God's Word, the Bible, for today's message:**

Simon Peter said to him, "Lord, where are you going?" Jesus answered him, "Where I am going you cannot follow me now, but you will follow afterward." Peter said to him, "Lord, why can I not follow you now? I will lay down my life for you." Jesus answered, "Will you lay down your life for me? Truly, truly, I say to you, the rooster will not crow till you have denied me three times."

***John 13:36-38***

When they had finished breakfast, Jesus said to Simon Peter, "Simon, son of John, do you love me more than these?" He said to him, "Yes, Lord; you know that I love you." He said to him, "Feed my lambs." He said to him a second time, "Simon, son of John, do you love me?" He said to him, "Yes, Lord; you know that I love you." He said to him, "Tend my sheep." He said to him the third time, "Simon, son of John, do you love me?" Peter was grieved because he said to him the third time, "Do you love me?" and he said to him, "Lord, you know everything; you know that I love you." Jesus said to him, "Feed my sheep. Truly, truly, I say to you, when you were young, you used to dress yourself and walk wherever you wanted, but when you are old, you will stretch out your hands, and another will dress you and carry you where you do not want to go." (This he said to show by what kind of death he was to glorify God.) And after saying this he said to him, "Follow me."

Peter turned and saw the disciple whom Jesus loved following them, the one who also had leaned back against him during the supper and had said, "Lord, who is it that is going to betray you?" When Peter saw him, he said to Jesus, "Lord, what about this man?" Jesus said to him, "If it is my will that he remain until I come, what is that to you? You follow me!"

***John 21:15-22***

## NORTH HILLS CHURCH

200 Admiral Callaghan Lane, Vallejo, CA 94591 • (707) 644-5286 • north-hills.org

Summer Sermon Series: Encounters with Jesus

### *The Apostle Peter*

John 13:36-38 and John 21:15-22

#### **BIG IDEA:**

Following Jesus is more than just \_\_\_\_\_ ... it's about your \_\_\_\_\_.

1. Misplaced \_\_\_\_\_ won't help you

\_\_\_\_\_ Jesus. (John 13:36-38)

2. \_\_\_\_\_ is available for even our biggest

\_\_\_\_\_. (John 21:15-19)

3. Don't get \_\_\_\_\_ up in the \_\_\_\_\_

game ... follow Jesus. (John 21:20-22)

#### **RESPONSE:**

Are you \_\_\_\_\_ your \_\_\_\_\_?

**Read the entire Bible chronologically in a year**

See *the church newsletter for this week's Bible reading passages*

(<https://church.north-hills.org/newsletters/weekly-newsletter>)

#### Staffing Update

Last weekend during the Sunday Worship Service, Pastor James announced who was hired as the new Interim Children's Ministry Director. For those who were unable to attend in person or online, it gives us great joy to share that Trish Banda is the new Interim Children's Ministry Director. We are very excited that Trish will be serving in this position and we praise God for calling Trish to serve the children of North Hills and their families! To connect with Trish, feel free to speak with her on Sunday mornings or send an email to [tbanda@nhcsvallejo.org](mailto:tbanda@nhcsvallejo.org).

For the other open position, we are excited to share that Tim Parinas and Dee Dee Barrett have been hired as the Interim Co-Worship Leaders. By combining the strengths and giftedness of these two individuals, it helps to not only provide continuity to the Worship Team; it also helps the Worship Team to continue growing. To connect with Tim and Dee Dee, feel free to speak with them on Sunday mornings or send an email to [worship@nhcsvallejo.org](mailto:worship@nhcsvallejo.org).

#### Back to School Sunday

Join us for this special service on August 22 at 10:30 a.m. Teachers, parents, and students will be recognized and the church will lead the way in praying for God's direction and blessing for the upcoming school year and our community!

#### Upward at North Hills

Throughout the month of July, we challenged the North Hills family to pray for our Upward Ministry and especially that God would provide new leadership in anticipation of a new season in 2022. We are so grateful that God has answered our prayers and led not one, but three people to step up to lead as a team. We are pleased to announce that Lu Parinas, Lindsay Andal, and Amanda Watson will be leading the Upward Ministry moving forward. Please continue to pray for them as we move toward bringing Upward back for the 2022 season.

Please know that Upward takes our whole church to run smoothly, so please begin thinking about what role you will play in Upward! Please continue to pray that God will provide all the coaches, refs, concession stand volunteers, set up and take down crews, as well as the many other tasks that need to be done. They will need your help even if it's a commitment to pray for the volunteers, players, and their families. We believe that God will do great things through North Hills this coming year! We are looking forward to another great season!

#### Outdoor Children's Ministry on Sunday mornings

Parents and guardians, we ask that you go to the **main entrance** of the Worship Center to check your child in. After service, please go to the Preschool Playground in a timely fashion to check your child out. While our Sunday morning Children's Worship is designed for children, it is not mandatory children attend. Parents and guardians are welcome to keep their children with them in the Worship Center if they prefer.

#### Communication Cards and Offering Envelopes

At the **main entrance** and **senior parking lot entrance** of the Worship Center, you will find special new boxes when you leave today. If you have filled out a Communication Card or Offering Envelope, please insert them into either of the boxes. Please note the boxes will remain out for 20 minutes after the service.