

## A Pastor's Heart

### Encouragement from Pastor McGill

#### Follow Me

**John 12:26** *If any man serve me, let him follow me; and where I am, there shall also my servant be; if any man serve me, him will my Father honor.*

These two words sound simple enough for anyone to understand and obey. Yet there are many examples in the scripture where strong men and women could not consistently follow the instructions. Our destiny, our honor and our full blessings is found in these two words: Follow Me! Jesus is the only One who is qualified to give this command. Even the Apostle Paul stated: "be ye followers of me even as I also am of Christ." We would say only follow me as I am following Christ. Many of us grew up and played the game follow the leader. It was quite simple, you only had to do everything the same the way the leader did. If you deviated at all you be disqualified and out of the game. The only way to win the game was to stay intently focused on the leaders' every move and then do it exactly the way they did. If you got distracted and lost sight of the leader you were doomed. In order to win the game you had to deny yourself. You could do what you wanted to do and succeed. As simple as this sounds this is what happens in the body of Christ. Jesus provided the blueprint for success in following Him. I will cover the first criteria: We must deny self. This requires a discipline that many people are not willing to achieve. There are 3 aspects to self denial that we must do in order to accomplish this. **1. We must Conform.** This means to be identical, in harmony with and in total agreement with the One we are following, Jesus. **2. We must Comply.** This means to adapt one's actions to another's wishes. We submit our will to His will. How many of us had our lives planned out and that all changed when we started following Jesus? **3. We must Trust.** This means that I am fully persuaded that God knows what's best for me, I have a peace about it and I am able to rest in it. Jesus wants us to follow Him. He is looking for sold out believers to do His work. We are on the winning team let's continue to discipline ourselves to follow our Leader and receive our full reward and honor from the Father. Make it a great day.

#### Blessings and Peace

*Pastor McGill*