

3. Everyone who chooses to follow Jesus must make constant choices on how they spend their time. The world provides many distractions, some of which are legitimate, and some not. Read through the following Scriptures and write down your thoughts on how a believer can wisely manage time to meet obligations, serve others, enjoy rest and recreation, and always keep focus on Jesus.

Prov 4:25-27; Eccl 3:1-8; Matt 14:28-31; Mark 4:18-19; Gal 1:10; Eph 5:15-16

Digging Deeper

1. Read from John 21:15-22. In this passage, Jesus twice tells Simon Peter to “Follow me.”
 - a. In v15-19, Jesus restores Peter to fellowship after his three denials. This section takes place with all the disciples, having breakfast, and ends when He says to Peter “follow me.” Why did Jesus say this at this point in the story?
 - b. In v20-22, Peter asks the Lord about John. Jesus responds briefly and then again says “follow me.” Why did Jesus repeat that phrase here?
 - c. Think about a time Jesus has called you to separate from other believers for a brief walk with Him, or a time Jesus called your attention back to Him when you were focusing on others. Does this short phrase “follow me” reflect your encounter with Jesus during those times?
2. The “social cost” of following Christ may include complete separation from one’s family. Jesus teaches this a few times, including in Matthew 10:34-37. Read this brief passage and consider these two ideas; have any of these applied in your walk with the Lord?
 - a. v34-36 = Jesus came to bring a sword between family members.
 - b. v37 = Whoever loves a family member more than Jesus is not worthy of Him.