

SERMON DATE: March 14, 2021

SERMON SERIES: Giving Back to the One Who Gave

SERMON TITLE: The Son Who Gave His All

SCRIPTURE REFERENCE

John 19:28-30

After this, Jesus, knowing that all things were now accomplished, that the Scripture might be fulfilled, said, "I thirst!"²⁹ Now a vessel full of sour wine was sitting there; and they filled a sponge with sour wine, put it on hyssop, and put it to His mouth.³⁰ So when Jesus had received the sour wine, He said, "It is finished!" And bowing His head, He gave up His spirit.

SUMMARY STATEMENT

When encouraging someone to continue to endeavor through a challenging situation or set of circumstances, it is common to incline them to "give it your best shot." This statement is intended to motivate them to give maximum effort in order to accomplish. The Lord Jesus Christ, as He was faced with the difficulty of dying for the sins of the entire world, was after being strengthened by an angel from heaven in the Garden of Gethsemane, determined that He must not simply give it His best shot but to give all that He had.

INTRODUCTION

Follow the Leader is a game I remember playing as a child. Although I am not sure if it is still played by children, I believe it is useful in our message today. The game is played by first selecting someone who will serve as the leader or the "head of the line". Then, all the children line up behind the leader. The leader then moves around and does various things, and all the children have to do is mimic the leader's actions. Any player who fails to follow or do what the leader does is called "out" of the game. The game

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concludes when there is only one child left following the leader. Proving their ability to follow, that player becomes the leader and the game begins again. The goal of the game is to closely mimic the actions of the leader.

Like Father, Like Son

The Father Gave His Best, The Son Gave His All

Garden of Gethsemane - Not my will, but your will... -

Matthew 26:39

Obedient Unto Death – The Father’s Will

Philippians 2:8 - *And being found in appearance as a man, He humbled Himself and became obedient to the point of death, **even the death of the cross.***

Attempts on Jesus’ Life –

Luke 4:29 - over a cliff from the synagogue;

John 8:59 - first attempted stoning in the temple after declaring *before Abraham was I AM;*

John 10:31 – second attempt to stone in the temple after declaring *I and My Father are one.*

Even The Death of the Cross

John 3:14 - *And as Moses **lifted up** the serpent in the wilderness, even so must the Son of man be **lifted up**:* (Numbers 21:3-7)

Colossians 2:13-14 - *And you, being dead in your trespasses and the uncircumcision of your flesh, He has made alive together with Him, having forgiven you all trespasses, ¹⁴ having wiped out the handwriting of requirements that was against us, which was contrary to us. And He has taken it out of the way, having nailed it to the cross.*

POINT #1 - Jesus Rigorously Followed the Father

John 5:19 - *Then Jesus answered and said to them, “Most assuredly, I say to you, the Son can do nothing of Himself, but*

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what He sees the Father do; for whatever He does, the Son also does in like manner.

John 12:49 - *For I have not spoken on My own authority; but the Father who sent Me gave Me a command, what I should say and what I should speak.*

How much rigor is involved in our following Christ?

NOTE #1: Jesus followed the Father, which qualified Him to become our leader.

POINT #2 - Jesus Expects Persistent “Follow-Ship”

Luke 9:23 (Matt. 16:24) - *Then He said to them all, “If anyone desires to come after Me (be my disciple - NIV), let him deny himself, and take up his cross daily, and follow Me.*

Matthew 10:38 - *And he who does not take his cross and follow after Me is not worthy of Me.*

Persistence - firm or obstinate continuance in a course of action despite difficulty or opposition.

PERSISTENT FOLLOWERS

Confessors vs. Followers (who changed the plan?)

NOTE #2: Paul’s persistent following is an example for us today.

1 Corinthians 11:1 - *Imitate (follow) me, just as I also imitate (follow) Christ.*

Alamy, a British a privately owned stock photography agency launched in 1999, has an early 20th century photo of a little boy intently, although with challenge, walking in his father’s footsteps. **This image should be a reflection of our intent to follow Jesus even when it is challenging.**

Philippians 3:12 - Not that I have already attained, or am already perfected; but I press on, that I may lay hold of that for which Christ Jesus has also laid hold of me.

Paul's Commitment – no wife (not every man has the gift of Paul – 1 Cor. 7:7)

POINT #3 - Determined to Complete the Assignment
It is Finished –

NOTE #3: Jesus didn't make excuses.

Young Men's Academy – “No Excuses”

Excuses: *Excuses are the tools of the incompetent used to build bridges to nowhere and monuments of nothingness.*

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Having Such Outstanding Models...

Romans 12:11 - ...not lagging in diligence, fervent in spirit, serving the Lord.