

#### IV. FOLLOW JESUS SACRIFICIALLY

<sup>20</sup> *"They immediately **left their nets** and followed Him."*  
Matthew 4:20

Following Jesus often demands leaving something behind.

<sup>24</sup> *"Then Jesus said to His disciples, 'If anyone desires to come after Me, let him deny himself, and take up his cross, and follow Me."*

<sup>25</sup> *"For whoever desires to save his life will lose it, but whoever loses his life for My sake will find it."*  
Matthew 16:24-25

<sup>23</sup> *"Then He said to them all, 'If anyone desires to come after Me, let him deny himself, and take up his cross daily, and follow Me.'" Luke 9:23*

#### V. FOLLOW JESUS EVANGELISTICALLY

<sup>19</sup> *"Then He said to them, 'Follow Me, and I will make you **fishers of men.**'"* Matthew 4:19

Jesus saves us and sends us.

<sup>15</sup> *"This is a faithful saying and worthy of all acceptance, that Christ Jesus came into the world to save sinners, of whom I am chief."* I Timothy 1:15

<sup>23</sup> *"Then the master said to the servant, 'Go out into the highways and hedges, and compel them to come in, that my house may be filled.'" Luke 14:23*

**ALWAYS SAY "YES" TO JESUS!**

#### FOLLOW JESUS: STORIES ON THE LIFE OF PETER On The Shore: A Story Of Transformation Pastor Steve Reynolds

##### Introduction:

- A.** Jesus called out to Peter, "*Follow Me*" (Matthew 4:19). This began what would be a remarkable journey of Peter learning how to follow Jesus more closely.

There is much we can learn from studying the life of Peter. Many of the challenges he faced are common to all of us. We can relate to his humanity as he experienced great moments of faith and moments of failure.

To follow Jesus is to be like Jesus. Knowing this the Key Verse for this series is I Peter 2:21 where Peter wrote, "*For this you were called, because Christ also suffered for us, leaving us an example, that you should follow His steps.*"

- B.** Attend the FOLLOW JESUS Teaching series to learn how to follow Jesus more closely. Explore interesting stories and valuable lessons from the life of Peter. Learn from this inspiring transformation of how a simple fisherman became a founding leader of Christianity.

TODAY	On The Shore: A Story Of Transformation
Oct 19	Cast Your Nets: A Story Of Provision
Oct 26	In The Story: A Story Of Faith
Nov 2	They Saw His Glory: A Story Of Confidence
Nov 9	Washing Their Feet: A Story Of Serving
Nov 16	I Don't Know Him: A Story Of Failure
Nov 23	By The Fire: A Story Of Restoration
Nov 30	Build My Church: A Story Of Significance

- C. TEXT** Matthew 4:18-20

Follow Jesus Principle: Always Say Yes To Jesus.

<sup>19</sup> *"Then He said to them, 'Follow Me, and I will make you fishers of men.'" Matthew 4:19*

## HOW TO BE TRANSFORMED BY JESUS

### Ten Interesting Facts About Peter:

1. Peter was originally from Bethsaida (John 1:44) and lived in Capernaum (Mark 1:29), both cities on the Sea of Galilee.
2. Peter was married (I Corinthians 9:5).
3. Peter met Jesus through his brother Andrew (John 1:35-36).
4. Peter's given name was Simon Son of John (Simon bar Jonah). Upon meeting Simon, Jesus gave him a new name, Jesus gave Simon the name: Cephas (Aramaic) and Peter (Greek), which means little rock (John 1:40-42).
5. Peter was a fisherman on the Sea of Galilee and along with James and John had a profitable business (Luke 5:10).
6. Peter is usually listed first when the Bible lists Jesus' disciples. (Matthew 10:1-4)
7. Peter denied knowing who Jesus was three times the night before Jesus was crucified (Matthew 26:70-74).
8. Peter became a leader in the early church and was the main speaker on the day of Pentecost (Acts 2:41).
9. Peter wrote two books of the New Testament; I & II Peter.
10. Peter was crucified upside-down for his faith around 65AD in Rome under the great persecution of Christians by Emperor Nero.

**Jesus said "Follow Me" 21 times, in 12 different conversations.**

## FIVE TRANSFORMATIONAL WAYS TO FOLLOW JESUS

### I. FOLLOW JESUS ENTHUSIASTICALLY

<sup>19</sup> *"Then He said to them, 'Follow Me, and I will make you fishers of men.'"* Matthew 4:19

When Jesus says "Follow Me" He is leading you to a life of greater significance.

<sup>11</sup> *"For I know the thoughts that I think toward you, says the LORD, thoughts of peace and not of evil, to give you a future and a hope."* Jeremiah 29:11

<sup>13</sup> *"for it is God who works in you both to will and to do for His good pleasure."* Philippians 2:13

### II. FOLLOW JESUS OBEDIENTLY

<sup>20</sup> *"They immediately left their nets and followed Him."* Matthew 4:20

Obedience is doing what you are told to do, when you are told to do it, with the right heart attitude.

<sup>14</sup> *"as obedient children, not conforming yourselves to the former lusts, as in your ignorance;"* I Peter 1:14

<sup>15</sup> *"and He died for all, that those who live should live no longer for themselves, but for Him who died for them and rose again."* II Corinthians 5:15

### III. FOLLOW JESUS IMMEDIATELY

<sup>20</sup> *"They immediately left their nets and followed Him."* Matthew 4:20

Delayed obedience is really just disobedience.

<sup>60</sup> *"I made haste, and did not delay to keep Your commandments."* Psalm 119:60

<sup>5</sup> *"His mother said to the servants, 'Whatever He says to you, do it.'"* John 2:5