

N O V E M B E R 8 2 0 2 0



My sheep hear my voice, and I know them, and they follow me. John 10:27 (ESV)

Thought for today...

'Follow, follow, I will follow Jesus. Anywhere, everywhere, I will follow on. Follow, follow, I will follow Jesus. Everywhere He leads me I will follow on!' These are lyrics from a Christian hymn that was written in 1878 by William Orcutt Cushing and put into song by Robert Lowry. The song is known by several titles - 'Follow On', 'Down In The Valley With My Saviour I Would Go' and the one that I recall singing in the church that I grew up in 'I will follow Jesus'.

On reflecting on the title, I pondered each word, giving each in turn a greater emphasis.

- **I** will follow Jesus. Me. Whether my family, friends or colleagues choose to do so, *I* have made the choice to follow Jesus.
- I **will** follow Jesus. Not that I 'may' (providing that I feel like doing so on any given day), or that I 'should' (because that's what I've been taught, or feel duty bound to do), but that I choose to be purposeful and intentional about following Jesus.
- I will **follow** Jesus. (I confess that this sometimes presents a struggle for me), but I'll stay in His shadow rather than run ahead and take the lead, thinking that I know best and that He needs my help!
- I will follow **Jesus**. So many people are today choosing to follow their friends, colleagues, politicians, media stars - anyone **but** Jesus!

Noun: **emphasis**

- Special importance or significance
- Intensity or forcefulness of expression
- Accent

The Bible gives us so many reasons why we should choose to be followers of Jesus. Here are a few:

Jesus called out to them, “Come, follow me, and I will show you how to fish for people!” Matthew 4:19 (New Living Translation).

Again Jesus spoke to them, saying, “I am the light of the world. Whoever follows me will not walk in darkness, but will have the light of life.” John 8:12 (English Standard Version).

"Whoever serves me must follow me; and where I am, my servant also will be. My Father will honor the one who serves me." John 12:26 (New International Version).

Becoming a 'fisher of men', not walking in darkness but having the light of life, being honoured by the Father - these are reason enough for me to choose to follow Jesus - how about you?

Though challenges may arise, and disappointments may come, I have made my choice and pray that I will be faithful to follow Jesus anywhere and everywhere; that everywhere He leads me I will follow on!

