## Follow Jesus The Good Shepherd

"When Jesus landed and saw a large crowd, he had compassion on them, because they were like sheep without a shepherd. So he began teaching them many things. By this time it was late in the day, so his disciples came to him. "This is a remote place," they said, "and it's already very late. Send the people away so they can go to the surrounding countryside and villages and buy themselves something to eat." But he answered, "You give them something to eat." They said to him, "That would take eight months of a man's wages! Are we to go and spend that much on bread and give it to them to eat?" "How many loaves do you have?" he asked. "Go and see." When they found out, they said, "Five -- and two fish." Then Jesus directed them to have all the people sit down in groups on the green grass. So they sat down in groups of hundreds and fifties. Taking the five loaves and the two fish and looking up to heaven, he gave thanks and broke the loaves. Then he gave them to his disciples to set before the people. He also divided the two fish among them all. They all ate and were satisfied, and the disciples picked up twelve basketfuls of broken pieces of bread and fish. The number of the men who had eaten was five thousand." (Mark 6: 34-44)

You might be one of those who are among the big crowd? You might be harassed and troubled by different kind of trials and problems. Indeed you are searching for a relief for your life troubles; especially looking for solutions will not be easy in this world that full of confusion, controversies and misunderstandings. But the good thing that is their, there is a shepherd whom you can follow, a person whom you can rely on. This is the Lord Jesus Christ. He came from heaven to show the way to us to reach God the Father. He came to save people from sin and death. Jesus Christ died on the cross for the sin of the whole world. He was buried but rose from the dead on the third day to give eternal life to those who believe in Him and follow His steps in their lives.

The Lord Jesus Christ, the good shepherd, He came to search for His sheep as He said, "I am the good shepherd. The good shepherd lays down His life for the sheep." (John 10: 11) We ought to appreciate what He did for us on the cross and to discern His genuine love and concern for us. We need to be attentive to His voice and to follow His steps in our lives. "My sheep listen to my voice; I know them, and they follow me. I give them eternal life, and they shall never perish; no one can snatch them out of my hand." (John 10: 27-28) The sheep that belongs to Jesus they ought to hear His voice, they ought to follow Him then they have eternal life. Living away from the Lord Jesus Christ is living a difficult life. It will be a life of pain and of sorrow. Living away from Jesus is living a miserable life; your soul will be tortured with the arrows of devil and different kinds of anxieties. But when you come to know the Lord Jesus and start to follow His Word you will be returning to the shepherd of your soul, "For you were like sheep going astray, but now you have returned to the shepherd and the overseer of your souls." (1 Peter 2: 25)

When Jesus would see someone returning to Him He will have a compassion on Him. First thing He will do He will start to teach him many things; the very principles of life and godliness that makes life smooth and easy. Jesus Christ is the living Word of God, and returning to Jesus is accepting His Word, the Word of God that is the only way for you to be relieved from your troubles.

Many seek to receive material blessings from the Lord, but the most precious blessing from the Lord is the spiritual advice and the discipline that comes from His Word to us that we can read in the Bible. Many they seek His hands to receive material things but they don't seek His face that can bring them God's secrets and the keys for abundant life. The Word of God tells us, "But seek first His kingdom and His righteousness, and all these things will be given to you as well." (Mathew 6: 33) The crowd that followed Jesus was interested to follow Jesus to hear His Word and His teaching. That does not mean that they don't have responsibilities, families, works and urgent things but to follow the Lord and to hear His voice had become their priority. Therefore the Lord rewarded them for that. The same will be to you. If you give the first importance to God then God will give you His first importance. As God supplied the material needs of the crowd He will supply your needs as well.

- God will supply all your needs at any time: "And surely I am with you always, to the very end of the age." (Mathew 28: 20) As you walk with God He will be with you at the time of need.
- 2. God will supply all your needs at any place: "The Lord Himself goes before you and will be with you; He will never leave you nor forsake you. Do not be afraid; do not be discouraged." (Deuteronomy 31: 8) Wherever you are, God is there beside you as long as you honor Him and follow His Word.
- 3. God will supply all your needs at any circumstances: "You prepare a table before me in the presence of my enemies. You anoint my head with oil; my cup overflows." (Psalm 23: 5) Even in the most unfavorable circumstances God will provide all your needs even if you are attacked by the enemy.

*My Dear and beloved:* Our Lord and God is loving and compassionate Lord. He will not over look your needs. As long as you are contented with Him and honoring His Word and applying it in your life He will be faithful in caring in all what you need.

My Prayer: Father God I come before you in the name of Jesus who died on the cross for my sins. Lord I commit myself to follow Your Word in my life and walk in all Your steps. Help me and guide me in this matter, this is my prayer in Jesus name, Amen.