

WHAT WILL YOUR ANSWER BE?
Will You Really Lay Down Your Life for Me?
John 13:31-38

INTRODUCTION

- A. How far are you willing to go for Christ?
- B. For you, is following Christ merely a Sunday stroll?

I. “I AM READY TO DIE FOR YOU.”

- A. Peter’s Statement of Conviction. John 13:37.
 - 1. Judas has left to complete his act of betrayal, vs. 27-30.
 - 2. Jesus explains His leaving in a short while, vs. 33.
 - 3. Peter will lay down his life for Jesus.
- B. Peter: An Exceptional Success.
 - 1. He was a decisive man.
 - a. He readily accepted the invitation to follow Jesus, Matthew 4:18-20.
 - b. He did not hesitate or offer excuses, but went immediately.
 - 2. He was a wholehearted man.
 - a. He knew his mind and his heart.
 - b. He never gave less than 100%.
 - 3. He was a perceptive man.
 - a. He had the quality of truly seeing and hearing.
 - b. John 6:68, “...to whom shall we go?”
 - c. Matthew 16:16, “You are the Christ...”
 - 4. He was a loyal man.
 - a. He was openly, devoutly, and totally committed to Christ.
 - b. Jesus honored this quality:
 - i. He was one of the inner circle of friends.
 - ii. Matthew 16:19, was given the keys of the kingdom.

II. “WILL YOU REALLY LAY DOWN YOUR LIFE FOR ME?”

- A. The Denial of Peter.
 - 1. Jesus prophesies the denial of Peter, vs. 38.
 - 2. Peter is accused of being a follower of Christ, Luke 22:54-62.
 - 3. After his third denial, he hears the cock crow, vs. 61.
- B. Peter: An Exceptional Failure.
 - 1. In the Garden, he ran at the rebuke of using the sword, Matthew 26:56.
 - 2. He denied knowing Jesus while Jesus was on trial, Matthew 26:57-75.
 - 3. He returned to his occupation after the resurrection, John 21.

III. “WHEN ONCE YOU HAVE TURNED AGAIN...”

- A. Peter: More Than a Sunday Stroll.
 - 1. Jesus also prophesied Peter’s return, Luke 22:31-32.
 - 2. Fulfillment of the prophecy found in John 21:15-17.
- B. The Remainder of Peter’s Life.
 - 1. Reaching out to those that were lost.

2. Truly laying down his life for Jesus.
 - a. He was crucified head down in Rome, around 54-56 A.D.

CLOSING

- A. We all have to answer the same question Jesus asked Peter.
 1. Will we really lay down our lives for Him?
 2. Or will we only stand for Christ until difficulties come our way?
- B. Maybe you have suffered the same fate of Peter.
 1. In time of trial you forsook Christ and went your own way.
 2. There is forgiveness in Christ, 1 John 2:1-2; 1:9.