

# **A CHRISTIAN IS A FOLLOWER**

## **Part III**

### IV. To follow Jesus means we follow Today

Finally, if we are to follow Jesus now is the time! Long ago Joshua challenged God's people saying, "Choose you this day whom you will serve." (Joshua 24:15) And the people of God in great faith and commitment said, "We will serve the Lord." (verse 21)

This is the response Jesus expected when He said to those of His day, "Follow Me!" The response was immediate and sacrificial.

I am still amazed at how we excuse ourselves by the excuses we give. For example, here are some excuses a high school principal received.

- "Please excuse my son's tardiness. I forgot to wake him up, and I did not find him until I started making the beds."
- "Please excuse Mary for being absent. She was sick and I had her shot."
- "Please excuse Tom for being absent yesterday. He had diarrhea, and his boots leak."
- "My son is under doctor's care and should not take P.E. today. Please execute him."
- "Please excuse Harriet for missing school yesterday. We forgot to get the Sunday paper off the porch, and when we found it Monday, we thought it was Sunday."

We may smile at these, but we are just as creative in our excuses at times. So were some others in the New Testament. There were those to whom Jesus said, "Follow Me" and they said.

- "Lord, let me first say farewell to those of my house." (Luke 9:61)
- "I have bought a piece of ground." (Luke 14:18)
- "I have bought 5 yoke of oxen." (Luke 14:19)

- "I have married a wife." (Luke 14:20)

Jesus excused none of these but rather condemned them. It is still true as someone wrote, "The best time to do something significant is between yesterday and tomorrow."

T.N.T. is not a television channel or a high-powered explosive. It means **Today Not Tomorrow!** For us it means to seize the moment, follow the Christ and enjoy the best of life. "Our future would be assured if we did as much today as we expect to do tomorrow." Let's do it today! Whether it be going, giving, serving, sacrificing, obeying, committing or all of the above.

*Lord, today is the day you have made. I will rejoice and be glad in it,  
AND I will obey, go, give, serve, and willingly sacrifice for you.*