"FOLLOW ME!" MEDLEY For three readers and a song leader (SL)

INTRODUCTION: There were a variety of situations in which Jesus said, "Follow me." Sometimes it was a call to salvation, where "follow me" means believe in Jesus and become his follower. Sometimes it is a call to discipleship, to be on assignment for God. And sometimes it's a call to fellowship, to spend time with our Lord and Savior.

This Medley consists of 4 sets of Scriptures where Jesus said, "Follow me," all from the gospels, with musical interludes (all music is included). As a bonus, I have included one of my songs – a poem called Follow Me! that can be sung to they hymn tune "Jesus Saves."

We have heard our Savior's call: Follow me! Follow me! It's a call to one and all: Follow me! Follow me!

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- 1 As Jesus was walking beside the Sea of Galilee, he saw two brothers, Simon called Peter and his brother Andrew. They were casting a net into the lake, for they were fishermen.
- 2 "Come, follow me," Jesus said, "and I will make you fishers of men and women." At once they left their nets and followed him.
- 3 Going on from there, he saw two other brothers, James son of Zebedee and his brother John. They were in a boat with their father Zebedee, preparing their nets. Jesus called them, and immediately they left the boat and their father and followed him.
- 1 When Jesus saw the crowd around him, he gave orders to cross to the other side of the lake. Then a teacher of the law came to him and said, "Teacher, I will follow you wherever you go."
- 2 Jesus replied, "Foxes have holes and birds of the air have nests, but the Son of Man has nowhere to lay his head."
- 3 Another disciple said to him, "Lord, first let me go and bury my father." But Jesus told him, "Follow me, and let the dead bury their own dead."
- 1 As Jesus went on from there, he saw a man named Matthew sitting at the tax collector's booth. "Follow me," he told him, and Matthew got up and followed him.
- 1, 2 & 3 Jesus said, "Those who do not take up their cross and follow me are not worthy of me."
- SL We will now sing verse 1 and the chorus of "Where He Leads Me, I Will Follow."
- 2 Then Jesus said to his disciples, "Those who would come after me must deny themselves and take up their cross and follow me. For those who want to save their lives will lose them, but those who lose their lives for me will find them.

- 3 What good will it be for you to gain the whole world, yet forfeit your soul? Or what can you give in exchange for your soul?
- 1 Now someone came up to Jesus and asked, "Teacher, what good thing must I do to get eternal life?"
- 2 "Why do you ask me about what is good?" Jesus replied. "There is only One who is good. If you want to enter life, obey the commandments."
- 3 "Which ones?" he inquired.
- 1 Jesus replied, "'Do not murder, do not commit adultery, do not steal, do not give false testimony, honor your father and mother,' and 'love your neighbor as yourself.'"
- 2 "All these I have kept," the young man said. "What do I still lack?"
- 3 Jesus answered, "If you want to be perfect, go, sell your possessions and give to the poor, and you will have treasure in heaven. Then come, follow me."
- 1 When the young man heard this, he went away sad, because he had great wealth.
- SL Now we will sing verse 2 and the chorus of "Where He Leads Me."
- 2 Large crowds were traveling with Jesus, and turning to them he said: "If anyone comes to me and does not hate father and mother, wife and children, brothers and sisters yes, even life itself such a person cannot be my disciple. And those who do not carry their cross and follow me cannot be my disciples."
- 3 The next day John [the Baptist] was there again with two of his disciples. When he saw Jesus passing by, he said, "Look, the Lamb of God!"
- 1 When the two disciples heard him say this, they followed Jesus. Turning round, Jesus saw them following and asked, "What do you want?" They said, "Rabbi" (which means Teacher), "where are you staying?" "Come," he replied, "and you will see."
- 2 So they went and saw where he was staying, and spent that day with him. It was about the tenth hour. Andrew, Simon Peter's brother, was one of the two who heard what John had said and who had followed Jesus.
- 3 The first thing Andrew did was to find his brother Simon and tell him, "We have found the Messiah" (that is, the Christ). And he brought him to Jesus. Jesus looked at him and said, "You are Simon son of John. You will be called Cephas" (which, when translated, is Peter).
- 1 The next day Jesus decided to leave for Galilee. Finding Philip, he said to him, "Follow me." Philip, like Andrew and Peter, was from the town of Bethsaida.
- 2 Philip found Nathaniel and told him, "We have found the one Moses wrote about in the Law, and about which the prophets also wrote Jesus of Nazareth, the son of Joseph.

- 3 "Nazareth! Can anything good come from there?" Nathaniel asked.
- 1 "Come and see," said Philip.
- SL And now let's sing verse 3 and the chorus of "Where He Leads Me."
- 2 Aware that his disciples were grumbling about [some of his teachings, calling them hard], Jesus said to them, "Does this offend you? What if you see the Son of Man ascend to where he was before?"
- 3 From this time many of his disciples turned back and no longer followed him. "You do not want to leave too, do you?" Jesus asked the Twelve.
- 1 Simon Peter answered him, "Lord, to whom shall we go? You have the words of eternal life. We believe and know that you are the Holy One of God."
- 2 After the resurrection, Jesus said to Peter, "I tell you the truth, when you were younger you dressed yourself and went where you wanted; but when you are old you will stretch out your hands, and someone else will dress you and lead you where you do not want to go."
- 3 Jesus said this to indicate the kind of death by which Peter would glorify God. Then he said to him, "Follow me!"
- 1 Peter turned and saw that the disciple whom Jesus loved was following them. When Peter saw him, he asked, "Lord, what about him?"
- 2 Jesus answered, "If I want him to remain alive until I return, what is that to you? You must follow me."
- SL Now to conclude our "Follow Me!" medley, we will sing "I Have Decided To Follow Jesus."

Scriptures used in this reading: Matthew 4:18-22; Matthew 8:18-22; Matthew 9:9; Matthew 10:38; Matthew 16:24-26; Matthew 19:16 -22; Luke 14:25-27; John 1:35-46; John 6:61,62,66-69; John 21:18-22.

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Where He Leads Me

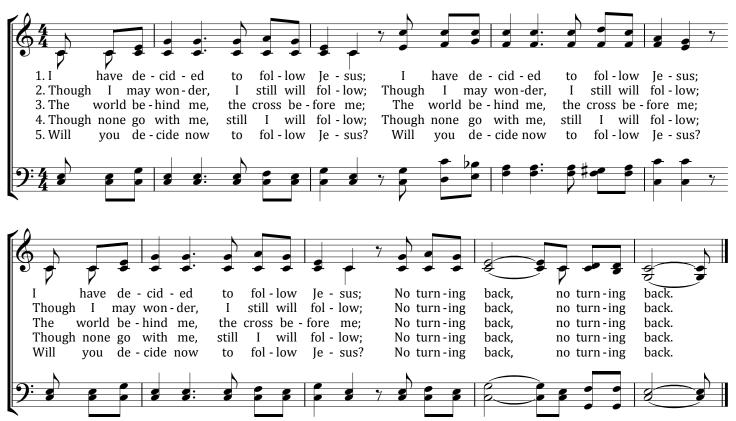
My sheep hear my voice, and I know them, and they follow me. Jn. 10:27 Whosoever will come after me, let him deny himself, and take up his cross, and follow me. Mk. 8:34



WORDS: Ernest W. Blandy, 1890. MUSIC: "Norris"; arr. by John S. Norris, 1890. Public Domain.

I Have Decided to Follow Jesus

Lord, I will follow thee whithersoever thou goest. Lk. 9:57



WORDS: attr. to S. Sundar Singh. MUSIC: "Assam"; Hindustani melody. Public Domain.

Follow Me!

Jesus saw a tax collector named Levi sitting at his tax booth. "Follow me," Jesus said, and Levi got up, left everything, can followed him. — Luke 5:27,28

