

Following at a Distance

What comes to mind when someone says, “It seems like there is a distance between us?” In our daily relationships we understand that to mean that something isn’t what it should be and that we should give close attention to it. Sometimes that distance is an indication of a closeness that is fading or sometimes it represents that there is a danger of the relationship crumbling. A distance can leave us vulnerable, open to danger, or drifting away from something that is sure and solid. The gospels show us where Peter “followed at a distance” at one point in his relationship with Jesus. What can we learn from that to help strengthen our relationship with God?

Matt. 26:57-58, 69-75; Mark 14:53-54, 66-72; Luke 22:54-62; John 18:15-18, 25-27

1. Why Did Peter Follow at a Distance?

- A. Fear of the _____
- B. _____ that I’m still following the Lord
- C. _____ the warnings
- D. Forgotten the _____

2. The Dangers of Following at a Distance

- A. It can easily lead to other _____
- B. It’s easy to _____ further (*Heb. 3:13, 6:4-6, 10:26*)

3. The Signs You May Be following at a Distance

- A. “Warming yourself by the fire” (*Gen 13:12*)
- B. Comfortable with the world vs uncomfortable with the Lord
- C. Justifying the Decision