

RUSSELL SANDERS

9-14-2023

SIMON PETER – LESSON 3

HIS SACRIFICES

We readily acknowledge Peter's immediate and willing response to follow Jesus. What we usually do not think of is what sacrifices he is making to do it?

First of all, he sacrificed his profession. He had been a life-long professional fisherman. In following Jesus on the road everywhere, how will he now be able to provide for his family?

Family? Yes, he was married. ([See Matthew 8:14](#)) What would his wife think about Peter taking off so suddenly to go with someone he had never met? We do not even know whether they had children, but there is a good chance they did. He might have been able to occasionally go home a day or so, but his family would see very little of him.

Where would he sleep at night? Jesus had stated that he had no place to sleep except as each day might provide. They would stay on the move and would often have trusted other people's hospitality.

Three or four years down the road, he would have to uproot his family from their home in Bethsaida and move them one hundred miles south (by foot or donkey) to Jerusalem, which would be their new place of residence. Moving is neither an easy task nor a pleasant one.

Life following Jesus would be no cakewalk. It was quite challenging. Peter was so eager to follow Messiah that none of these issues would deter him. He willingly and eagerly followed the Lord.

What sacrifices would you make to follow Jesus wherever he might bid you to go? What sacrifices would you make? Would you be tempted to stay with what you already know or have? Would you be willing to give up everything? Peter did.