

pathway we are to pattern our lives after the Lord's life. Sheldon's book, *In His Steps*, has been a classic on this line although I personally think it leaves a lot to be desired in the Gospel emphasis and maybe a little more of the social emphasis than I think good. But it has been a best seller for years and the main idea was learning to conduct ourselves in patterns of those seen in the Lord Jesus. I am also not suggesting that there is a dichotomy in the Lord's life so that He is one thing in a personal way and another in a public way. He is the only perfectly consistent person in all of these things known to us. But by His personal life, we mean the life that is lived openly but in a directed relationship between Himself and the Father. It is personal and opened to us chiefly to see His excellency. And my attempted thrust is to show something of this life and apply it to myself. In this initial talk we are looking to see how the Word of God moves us in this direction and get a bit of what our response should be.

II. Discussion:

- A. The Lord's specific teaching: John 13:15---If He is Lord and Master, then we pattern ourselves after Him. This thought shows up in Luke 22 in connection with the final supper and it certainly is in the background of the Mark 10 passage. We are to see His life and treat others as He did and put ourselves in the place of service as He did.

- B. The Apostolic example: 1 Corinthians 11:1, Ephesians 5:1
Paul tells us that he is a follower of the Lord and we may follow him as he follows the Lord. Being a follower of God as in the Ephesians passage may be somewhat general but it is specific to the point where we know where the example is and what our attitude should be regarding it.

- C. The Apostolic instruction...proceeds on four lines:
 - 1. 1 Peter 2:21 is the classic passage for "In His Steps" and relates to a particular life situation which, if followed, would guide us in many life situations.
 - 2. Philippians 2:5..We are instructed to have the mind of Christ meaning that we should think as He thought with humility, devotion and service.
 - 3. Hebrews 12:3...We are to let the service of God dominate in us as the Lord Jesus did.