

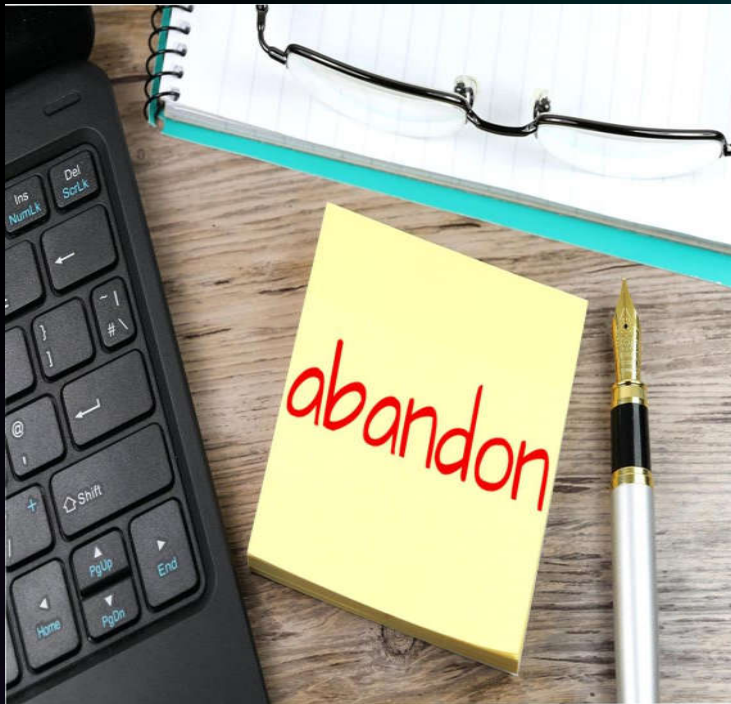
Sticking with
Jesus in a world
quick to
abandon Him
John 6:59-71

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Definition of Abandon



- 1. Cease to support, desert.**
- 2. To give up completely (a course of action, a practice or a way of thinking).**

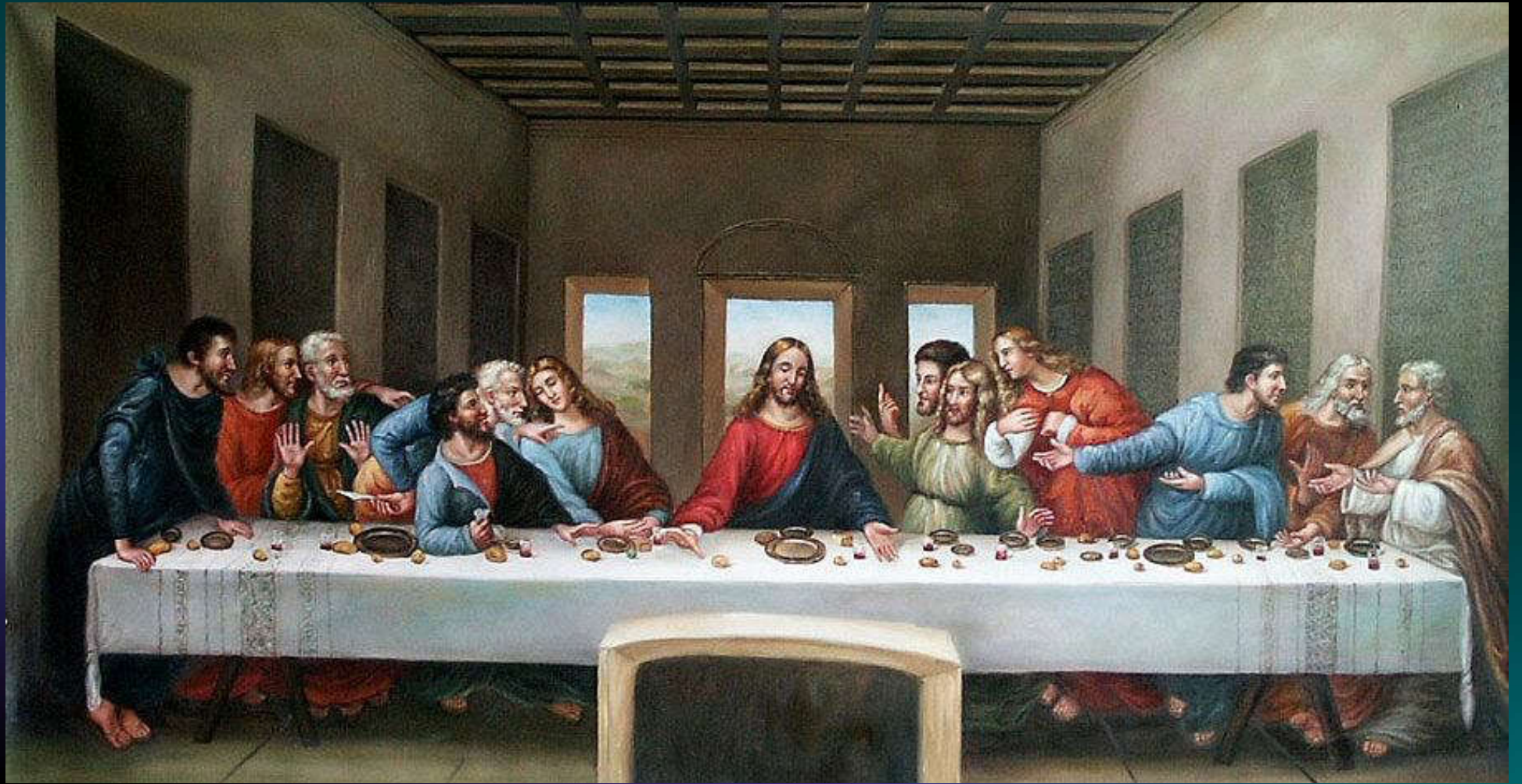
THE ETERNAL PRIZE

**Olympics
2024**



**“Well done good and faithful
servant.” -Matthew 25:23**





Some thoughts...

- **Sign of the times (Imminent return of Christ).**
- **Galatians 6:7 (NASB): Do not be deceived, God is not mocked, for whatever a person sows, this he will also reap. (CONTEXT: Sowing to the flesh or sowing to the Spirit).**
- **COMMENTATOR: Paul's point is clear, since we will stand before God (Judge), we must now live before God, and that means living in the Spirit. And this is in the midst of divisions within the church.**

Some thoughts...

- **"Boycotting" (athletes did it- IOCC would have to address it). I think of Eric Liddell @ the 1924 Olympic Games.**
- **Count the conversations not the conversions.**
- **Read Quote from Brian Haack.**
- **In Evangelism- methods (which put us on the offensive) / share about recent interaction with an atheist).**

Summary of John 6– setting the context for the main passage.

- *A Long Obedience in the Same Direction
- *Most difficult thing about being a Pastor.

John 6:1-14 (Feeding of the 5,000) read 6:1-5.

John 6:15-25 (Jesus walks on Water) read 6:15-17.

John 6:26-40 (Jesus addresses the crowd) read 6:26-29.

John 6:41-58 (Jesus addresses the Jews–
Jewish leaders to be specific).

THOSE WHO ABANDONED

(59) These things He said in the synagogue as He taught in Capernaum. (60) So, then many of His disciples when they heard this said, “This statement is very unpleasant; who can listen to it?” (61) But Jesus, aware that His disciples were complaining about this, said to them, “Is this offensive to you? (62) What then if you see the Son of Man ascending to where He was before? (63) It is the Spirit who gives life; the flesh provides no benefit; the words that I have spoken to you are spirit and are life. (64) But there are some of you who do not believe. For Jesus knew from the beginning who they were who did not believe, and who it was who would betray him. (65) And He was saying, “For this reason I have told you that no one can come to Me unless it has been granted him from the Father. (66) As a result of this many of His disciples left and would no longer walk with Him.

John 6:59-66 (NASB)

THOSE WHO ABANDONED/OFFENDED

(59) These things He said in the synagogue as He taught in Capernaum. (60) So, then many of His disciples when they heard this said, “This statement is very unpleasant; who can listen to it?” (61) But Jesus, aware that His disciples were complaining about this, said to them, “Is this offensive to you? (62)

John 6:59-66 (NASB)

Offensive (GREEK: Scandalizo- Scandal)

WHAT IS THIS IT THEY WERE OFFENDED BY?

#1 Philosophically Offensive

(6:40) For this is the will of My Father, that everyone who sees the Son and believes in Him will have eternal life, and I Myself will raise him up on the last day.

ONLY WAY! Generally speaking Jews and Gentiles believed in morality (“good people go to heaven bad people go to hell) vs Faith in Christ.
 (“Almost as if no other religion matters.”)

WHAT IS THIS IT THEY WERE OFFENDED BY?

#2 JESUS claims divinity- Intellectually Offensive

(41) So then the Jews were complaining about the Him because He said, “I am bread that came down from heaven.

(42) And they were saying, “Is this not Jesus, the son of Joseph, whose father and mother we know? How does He now say, ‘I have come down out of heaven’?”

WHAT IS THIS IT THEY WERE OFFENDED BY?

#3 Ethically Offensive

*Read 6:52-56 (NASB)

V.53- Truly, Truly (Jesus doubling down on this).
If you don't eat my flesh- you're dead.

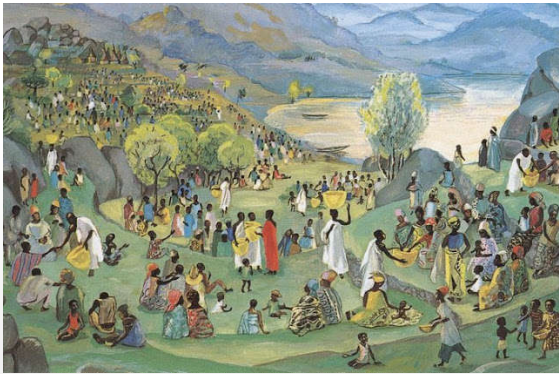
We just summarized the offense (scandal).

But WHO was offended?

(59) These things He said in the synagogue as He taught in Capernaum. (60) So, then many of His disciples when they heard this said, “This statement is very unpleasant; who can listen to it?” (61) But Jesus, aware that His disciples were complaining about this, said to them, “Is this offensive to you?”

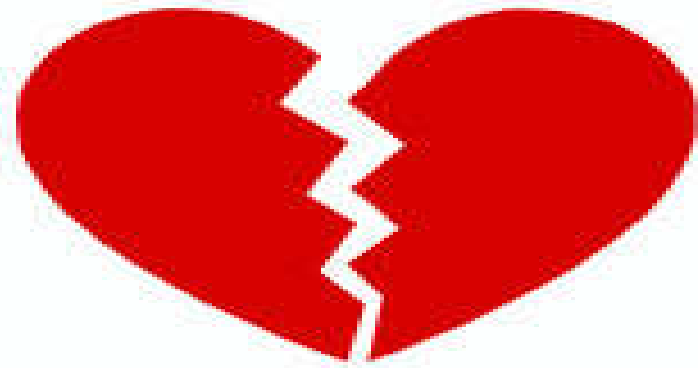
Defining a Disciple

- **Disciple: Follower or a student.**
- **Gospels (Matthew, Mark, Luke, John): Often talking about the twelve disciples- most of the time.**
 - **Luke 6:12-13: (12) In these days he went out to the mountain to pray, and all night he continued in prayer to God. (13) And when day came, He called his disciples and chose from them twelve whom he named apostles.**
 - **In Luke 10:1- Jesus sends out 72 disciples in pairs.**



**(66) As a result of
this many of His
disciples left and
would no longer
walk with Him.**

John 6:66 (NASB)



BARNA RESULTS

64% of those aged
18-25 no longer attend
church after leaving home.
Almost 2 out of 3.

LIFEWAY RESULTS Ages 23-30

1. I moved to college and stopped attending church (34%).
2. Church members seemed judgmental/hypocritical (32%).
3. I didn't feel connected to people in my church (29%).
4. I disagreed with the church's stance on political/social issues (25%).
5. My work responsibilities prevented me from attending. (24%).

(67) So, Jesus said to the twelve, “You do not want to leave also, do you?” (69) Simon Peter answered Him, “Lord, to whom shall we go? You have the words of eternal life. (69) And we have already believed and have come to know that You are the Holy One of God.”

John 6:67-69 (NASB).

Peter was off course still in process and so imperfect like the rest of us. God, I have believed for quite awhile and I have come to know (in my heart) who you are. Jesus, where are we going next?