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**The Pineapple Story**

**(Part One)**

Today, we will begin watching a movie called The Pineapple Story. Although the events took place some time ago, the truths presented here are timeless. A missionary to Irian Jaya, Otto Koenig, tells of his life there as he learned the lesson taught in Luke 14:33.

You will enjoy the sometimes comical story of a man who simply wanted to have a pineapple garden. Such a simple thing, and yet God often teaches us using the small things in our lives to bring big issues to our attention.

**A Light Hearted Look At The True Cost of Being a Disciple of Jesus Christ**

Jesus said that we are to forgive not just seventy times, but seventy times seven. Not only must you forgive, you also now have to do math.

If it were a reality TV talent show, the winner of “The Disciple” would get to give up all earthly possessions and follow Jesus through all levels of difficulties and hardships.

I wonder if when James and John went back to their fishing boats for a while right after the crucifixion, did they rename their boat “The Disciple Ship”?

If Jesus were here today, he might have to say, “No, I’m not talking about Twitter. I literally want you to follow me.”

Jesus did not say, “Go ye therefore and make disciples of all nations, developing task forces and strategic plans and surveying the congregation in order to craft a succinct and memorable mission statement that can be easily communicated on bumper stickers, website home pages, t-shirts, and coffee mugs.”

If Lazarus were alive today, thanks to Jesus, he would have a birth certificate, a death certificate and, of course, a resurrection certificate.

I wonder how Simon felt the day that Jesus came up to him and said, “Simon, from now on you will be known as Peter.” Now he would have to change his passport, driver’s license, Social Security card, voter registration, and his subscription to “Fishermen of Galilee” magazine.

If Jesus had fed the 5,000 in our day, would he have heard comments like, “I can’t eat that, I’m a Vegan,” or, “Is that gluten free bread?”

Do you suppose Thomas ever said, “All I’m saying is we don’t call Peter ‘Denying Peter’, or Mark “Ran Away Naked Mark.’ Why should I be saddled with this title?”

With a guy like Jesus as your teacher, it would be a bit pointless to try to call in sick for Discipleship Class.

Wash your hands and say your prayers because Jesus and germs are everywhere.

I am a disciple of Jesus Christ cleverly disguised as a self employed woodworker, husband, daddy, son, and Sunday school teacher.

**Famous, Well Known Prose With A Line Or Two That I Added At The End**

One night I dreamed a dream. As I was walking along the beach with my Lord. Across the dark sky flashed scenes from my life. For each scene, I noticed two sets of footprints in the sand, One belonging to me and one to my Lord.

After the last scene of my life flashed before me, I looked back at the footprints in the sand. I noticed that at many times along the path of my life, especially at the very lowest and saddest times, there was only one set of footprints.

This really troubled me, so I asked the Lord about it. "Lord, you said once I decided to follow you, you would walk with me all the way. But I noticed that during the saddest and most troublesome times of my life, there was only one set of footprints. I don't understand why, when I needed you the most, you would leave me."

He whispered, "My precious child, I love you and will never leave you. Never, ever, during your trials and testings. When you saw only one set of footprints,
It was then that I carried you."

(And that long groove over there is when I dragged you for awhile. Sometimes you need a little help getting to where I want you to be.)

