

## Reflection

### Keeping It Real: Real Faith for Real Life

The Danger of Comparison: When We Lose Our Focus – June 14, 2026

## Scripture

John 21:15–25 (NIV)

## Key Thought

Comparison has a way of shifting our attention from what God is doing in our lives to what He is doing in someone else's. When we lose our focus, we risk missing the unique calling, purpose, and path God has prepared for us.

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## Overview

After restoring Peter, Jesus gave him clear direction about his future. Instead of focusing on his own assignment, Peter looked at another disciple and asked, "What about him?" Jesus quickly redirected Peter's attention with a simple command: "You must follow me."

This passage reminds us that comparison is a distraction. God has a unique plan for each of us, and our responsibility is not to compare our journey to others but to faithfully follow Christ.

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## Point 1

### Focus on What God Has Called You to Do

## Scripture

### John 21:21–22a (NIV)

\*"When Peter saw him, he asked, '*Lord, what about him?*'"

## Reflection

Peter's focus shifted from his own calling to someone else's future. Comparison often begins when we become more concerned about what God is doing for others than what He is asking of us. God calls us to focus on our assignment, not someone else's.

## Reflection Questions

Am I focused on my calling or distracted by someone else's journey?  
What has God specifically called me to do in this season?

## This Week's Application

Spend more time pursuing your purpose than comparing your progress.  
Celebrate what God is doing in the lives of others.  
Stay committed to the assignment God has given you.

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## Point 2

### Remember, God's Plan for Your Life Is Unique to You

#### Scripture

##### John 21:22a (NIV)

*"If I want him to remain alive until I return, what is that to you?"*

#### Reflection

Jesus reminds Peter that God's plan for John was different from His plan for Peter. Different does not mean better or worse. God writes unique stories for each of His children. Comparing your path to someone else's can cause you to overlook the blessings, opportunities, and purpose God has designed specifically for you.

## Reflection Questions

Do I trust that God's plan for me is good, even when it looks different from someone else's?  
Have I been measuring my life against another person's journey?

## This Week's Application

Thank God for the path He has given you.  
Resist the urge to compare timelines and outcomes.  
Trust that God knows what is best for your life.

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### **Point 3**

#### **Continue to Follow Jesus**

#### **Scripture**

##### **John 21:22b (NIV)**

*"You must follow me."*

#### **Reflection**

Jesus brings Peter back to what matters most: following Him. Comparison pulls our eyes toward people, but discipleship keeps our eyes on Christ. The more we focus on Jesus, the less power comparison has over us. Our goal is not to keep up with others. Our goal is to faithfully follow Him.

#### **Reflection Questions**

What has been distracting me from following Jesus wholeheartedly?  
Am I more focused on people or on Christ?

#### **This Week's Application**

Keep your eyes on Jesus.  
Measure your growth by faithfulness, not comparison.  
Take the next step Christ is calling you to take.

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#### **Living It Out This Week**

Focus on your assignment.  
Trust God's unique plan for your life.  
Keep following Jesus.

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#### **Encouragement**

You have never missed a blessing that God intended for you.

What God has for someone else does not take away from what God has for you. Stay focused on your calling, trust God's plan, and keep following Jesus.

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### **Closing Prayer**

Lord, help us keep our eyes on You and not on comparisons. Teach us to trust the unique plan You have for our lives. Give us the wisdom to focus on our calling, the faith to trust Your purpose, and the courage to keep following You. In Jesus' name, Amen.