Date: 3/7/15 (Repeated 3/30/19 with some changes changes)

Title: Follow the Pattern

Theme: To find true success, we need to make Jesus our pattern

Object: Shirt pattern, pink shirt sewn without a pattern

Text: 1 Peter 2:21 For to this you were called, because Christ also suffered for us, leaving us an example, that you should follow His steps:

This bible verse says something very important: Jesus is our example and we should follow His steps.

That means that we should try our best to live like Jesus and do what Jesus would do.

It means that we should make Jesus our “pattern” for how to live.

Do you know what a pattern is? I have actually brought a pattern in my bag today.

Back when I was a kid, a lot of mothers sewed clothes for their kids. My mom was one of those mothers

She sewed dresses and skirts for my sisters.

I can remember two things she made for me: a vest and a seersucker shirt. [Explain seersucker shirt]

I didn’t much like the seersucker shirt; I thought the arm holes were too big and it looked homemade.

But I loved the vest. I wore it until I couldn’t get it buttoned anymore.

Now when you sew your own clothes you need to follow a pattern. [Show shirt pattern, cutouts, directions, etc.]

If you’re careful to follow the directions and use the pattern to cut out your material, you can sew a beautiful shirt like the one shown in the picture on the pattern envelope.

Well we have a sewing machine at home and I know how to use it pretty well.

So I made this shirt! Who would like to try it on to see how it fits? [Get volunteer to try on shirt.]

Wait a minute! There’s something wrong here! What’s wrong with this shirt?

Well, I’ll have to admit that I didn’t use a pattern when I made this shirt.

Instead of following the pattern, I just sewed it together any old way I felt like.

Would you want to wear a shirt like this with two sleeves on the same side and no sleeve on the other?

Nobody would ever wear this shirt. It’s good for nothing. We need to throw it away.

That’s what happens when we don’t follow the pattern.

That’s why our verse this morning is so important.

If we make Jesus our example and follow Him as our pattern, God will not have to throw us away.

He’ll keep us in His kingdom forever and ever. Does that sound good to you?

How many want to follow Jesus as your pattern?

