Following Jesus
Matthew 16:24-27
October 25, 2026

Pastor Vaughn

1. The Proposition (Christ's Offer of Salvation) - (24a)

2. The Personal Price - (24b)

   Three actions Jesus demands of anyone who would be His disciple:

   a) the disciple must deny himself

   b) the disciple must take up his cross

   c) the disciple must follow Jesus

3. The Persuasion - (25-27)

   Three reasons to follow Jesus:

   a) To refuse to follow Jesus and choose instead to live for yourself is to doom to your soul.

   b) To choose the pursuit of earthly gain over Jesus is to irrevocably sever yourself from salvation.

   c) To refuse to follow Jesus for any reason is to invite certain judgment.

Matthew 16:24-27

24 Then Jesus said to His disciples, "If anyone wishes to come after Me, he must deny himself, and take up his cross and follow Me.

25 For whoever wishes to save his life will lose it; but whoever loses his life for My sake will find it.

26 For what will it profit a man if he gains the whole world and forfeits his soul? Or what will a man give in exchange for his soul?

27 For the Son of Man is going to come in the glory of His Father with His angels, and will then repay every man according to his deeds.

Application Questions

These questions are provided for your further study and application of today's sermon. Thoughtfully writing out the answers to these questions will help to drive home the point of today's study. It is also helpful when you are able to discuss your answers with others. For more information about Koinonia Groups at Heritage Church that utilize these questions as the basis for their discussion, please see Pastor Vaughn or e-mail Vaughn@hcgj.org.

#1 Read Ephesians 2:8-9. Does the fact that salvation is by grace through faith in Christ mean that there will be no personal price to be paid for following Jesus as a disciple in this world? Why not? What must one be willing to give up to receive salvation?

#2 What do you personally find the most striking about the Lord's invitation to follow Him?

#3 Do you agree that the key to being able to deny self is capturing the right vision of your own sinfulness and desperation?

#4 If you claim to be a Christian, but are not experiencing some measure of rejection from the world, what might the problem be?

#5 What is the key to being able to truly follow after Jesus?

#6 How can the love of earthly treasure keep people from entering the kingdom of heaven?

Here are some resources that may assist you in a deeper study of the truths presented in today's sermon. While Pastor Vaughn cannot endorse every concept presented in each book, he does believe these resources will be helpful in profitably thinking through today's topic.

Carson, D.A. *Matthew Vol. 1 (Ch 1 – 12), The Expositor's Bible Commentary.* Grand Rapids: Zondervan, 1995.
MacArthur, John F. *Matthew 8 –15.* Chicago: Moody Bible Institute, 1985
Morris, Leon. *The Gospel According to Matthew*. Grand Rapids: Eerdmans, 1992.
Toussant, Stanley. *Behold the King – A Study of Matthew*. Grand Rapids: Kregel, 1980.
Turner, David L. *Matthew*. Grand Rapids: Baker, 2008.

Streaming of both the audio and video of today's sermon is available on the Heritage website (HCGJ.org) and App (Heritage GJ). The App can also be found on YouTube, RokuTV, AppleTV, GoogleTV, FireTV,and CarPlay. Podcasts for Heritage Church can also be found on your favorite provider.