



SERMON STUDY GUIDE

“Matthew 16:21-28” on February 18/21

CONNECT

How did last week’s passage we read/discussed from Matthew 16:13-20 affect your week?

DISCOVER: MATTHEW 16:21-28

What did the passage say (in your own words) or did you take away from the sermon this week?

How does this passage or did the sermon point you to Jesus (teach us about Jesus)?

Did you find anything challenging about this passage (words you didn’t understand, phrases that didn’t make sense, etc.)?

Matthew 16:21-23 Jesus’ conversation with Peter revealed that Peter had false expectations of what Jesus’ kingdom would look like, and He reprimanded Peter, calling him a stumbling block.

- What things have you believed to be true about Jesus that were false expectations and have challenged your faith?
- Can you describe moments in your life where pride, selfish ambition, or thinking you deserved better influenced your actions so much that you became a stumbling block to the message of the gospel for those around you, becoming a hindrance to truly seeing Jesus?
- Jesus spoke similarly to Satan (Matt. 4:10) when He was tempted in the wilderness as when He spoke to Peter in verse 23, but His words to Peter were different. Why do you think Jesus might have spoken differently to Satan and to Peter?

Matthew 16:24 We choose what we live for: control of our own lives or surrender to God’s will, and those choices bring about different outcomes.

- What do Jesus’ words in verse 24 mean to you, and how does that affect the choices you will make in following Jesus?
- Is there a difference between the act of ‘coming to the cross of Christ for salvation’ and ‘denying oneself, taking up your cross to follow Jesus?’ Share your thoughts.

Matthew 16:25-27 Study these verses and consider Jason’s statements in the sermon: (1) “The way we know where we’re at is what we think about, pray for, and worry about.” (2) “An investment in the kingdom of God is always a bargain, at any cost.”

- In light of these verses and those statements, how are your choices in life reflecting eternal values or selfish ambition for worldly values right now?

Matthew 16:28, Mark 9:1, and Luke 9:27 all describe this statement of Jesus a little differently.

- Comparing the three statements, discuss the possibilities for what Jesus might have been referring to in His statement, and what that meant for the kingdom of God and the future mission of the disciples

RESPOND

- What is one thing you learned about yourself from God’s Word? How will you respond in obedience this week?
- Who is someone you can have a conversation with about what Jesus is doing in your life or invite to join you at a CU Church gathering.

PRAY

Pray for each other and spend time praising God. Pray that he will show you how to better love God and love people.

KEEP READING

Philippians 2:1-11 where Paul talks about the mindset of Jesus.