



BIGGER BETTER

Bible study for the week starting February 18, 2024

SHARE

Everything in life is a series of trades. We are constantly trading something for something else. Time for money...money for food...food for health, etc. etc.

What are some examples of good or bad “trades” that you have made in your life? Do you have any “trades” that you make everyday? What are some examples in your life? And trades you made that you regret?

READ/STUDY/DISCUSS

1. Read also **Psalm 30:1-12**. What are the various things that God trades out in this Psalm (e.i. anger to favor, weeping to joy, etc.) What are the things that God trades out in your life?
2. Read **Philippians 3:7-11** Paul traded his “self-made” religious life for the life found in Christ. What part of your life do you have a hard time giving to the Lord?
3. Read **Matthew 16: 21-23** This story comes on the heels of Peter’s confession of Jesus and Jesus calls him blessed...to Jesus calling him Satan. Why was this such a strong thing. Kingdom without the cross is NOT the kingdom that Christ established. How is this both challenging and comforting?
4. Read **Matthew 16:24-28**. Jesus gives us a three-fold path of discipleship. Which part is the hardest?
 - a. Deny Self: (READ: Colossians 3:5-11; Galatians 5:16-26)
 - b. Take up Cross: (James 1:2-12) What is your cross?
 - c. “Follow me:” The bookend of Peter’s life as a disciple ...and the call in yours.

PRAY

Pray for the willingness to follow and heed the call of the Lord, even as we pick up our cross. Pray for the trades we make each day to glorify Jesus. And pray that his grace would give us peace. Amen.

BIGGER+ BETTER

BIGGER AND BETTER: TRADED FOR TICKETS

Matthew 16:21-28

February 18, 2024 – Pastor Ben Schrank

Everything in life is a series of **TRADES**.

“For whoever would save his life will lose it, but whoever will lose his life for my sake will **FIND IT**.” Matthew 16:25 The **MYTH** of a “self-made” life.

“When Christ calls a man, he bids him come and **DIE**.”
- Dietrich Bonhoeffer

We trade our idea for our **LIFE**...for God’s idea for our **LIFE**.

“For what will it profit a man if he gains the whole world and forfeits his **SOUL**?” Matthew 16:26 **COST of DISCIPLESHIP:**

1. DENY **SELF**.
2. TAKE UP YOUR **CROSS**.
3. FOLLOW **JESUS**.

For Christ: there is no **KINGDOM** without the cross.

Christ traded His **DEATH** for our life.

“I have been **CRUCIFIED** with Christ. It is no longer I who live, but Christ who lives in me. And the life I now live in the flesh I live by faith in the Son of God, who loved me and gave himself for me.” Galatians 2:20