

The Gospel Paradox
Palm Sunday
April 10, 2022

John 10:10 (NIV) “The thief comes only to steal and kill and destroy; I have come that they may have **life**, and have it to the **full**.”

Paradox: A seemingly absurd or contradictory statement or proposition which, when investigated, may prove to be well founded or true. –The Oxford Dictionary

Mark 8:35 (NLT) “If you try to **hang on to your life**, you will lose it. But if you **give up your life** for my sake and for the sake of the Good News, you will **save it**.”

We live in a world:

- ✓ Self-_____.
- ✓ Self-_____.
- ✓ Self-_____.

Mark 8:27-38 (NIV) Jesus and his disciples went on to the villages around Caesarea Philippi. **On the way** he asked them, “**Who do people say I am?**” They replied, “Some say John the Baptist; others say Elijah; and still others, one of the prophets.” “But **what about you?**” he asked. “Who do you say I am?” Peter answered, “**You are the Christ.**” Jesus warned them not to tell anyone about him. He then began to teach them that the Son of Man must suffer many things and be rejected by the elders, chief priests and teachers of the law, and that he must be killed and after three days rise again. He spoke plainly about this, and **Peter took him aside and began to rebuke him**. But when Jesus turned and looked at his disciples, he **rebuked Peter**. “Get behind me, Satan!” he said. “**You do not have in mind the things of God, but the things of men.**” Then he **called the crowd** to him along with his disciples and said: “If anyone would come after me, he must **deny himself and take up his cross and follow me**. For **whoever wants to save his life will lose it, but whoever loses his life for me and for the gospel will save it**. What good is it for a man to gain the whole world, yet forfeit his soul? Or what can a man give in exchange for his soul? If anyone is **ashamed of me** and my words in this adulterous and sinful generation, the Son of Man will be **ashamed of him** when he comes in his Father’s glory with the holy angels.”

Key Thought: You can’t have a _____ without a _____.

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How do we die so we live?

1. Die to _____.

Galatians 2:20 (NIV) I have been **crucified** with Christ and I no longer live, but **Christ lives in me**. The life I now live in the body, I live by faith in the Son of God, who loved me and gave himself for me.

Key Thought: Spend 5 minutes a day in _____.

John 3:30 (NLT) He must become greater and greater, and I must become less and less.

2. Die to our _____.

Galatians 5:17 (ESV) For the desires of the **flesh** are against the Spirit, and the desires of the Spirit are against the flesh, for these are opposed to each other, to **keep you from doing the things you want to do**.

Galatians 5:24 (NIV) Those who belong to Christ Jesus have **crucified** the **sinful nature** with its **passions** and **desires**.

Key Thought: Spend 5 minutes a day in _____.

3. Die to the _____.

Galatians 6:14 (NIV) May I never boast except in the cross of our Lord Jesus Christ, through which the world has been crucified to me, and I to the world.

John 17:14-17 (NIV) “I have given them your **word** and the world has hated them, for they are **not of the world** any more than I am of the world. My prayer is not that you take them out of the world but that you **protect them** from the evil one. They are not of the world, even as I am not of it. **Sanctify** them by the **truth**; your **word** is truth.”

Key Thought: Spend 5 minutes a day in the _____.

Walk Away: During Passion Week, I will give the first _____ of my day to the Lord.

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