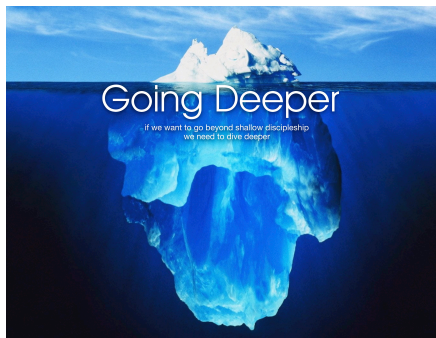


SEQUOIA NOTES

Today's Sequoia @10:10 Message...

Follow the Crucified King

With Ryan Dawson - Lead Pastor
October 17, 2021



- To follow Jesus is to follow the way of the cross. What does this mean?
- Too often in the Church we chase after a “feel-good” discipleship.
- In order to be Christ-centred as disciples we need to be cross-centred.

Matthew 16:13-17 (NLT) When Jesus came to the region of Caesarea Philippi, he asked his disciples, “Who do people say that the Son of Man is?”¹⁴ “Well,” they replied, “some say John the Baptist, some say Elijah, and others say Jeremiah or one of the other prophets.”¹⁵ Then he asked them, “But who do you say I am?”¹⁶ Simon Peter answered, “You are the Messiah, the Son of the living God.”¹⁷ Jesus replied, “You are blessed, Simon son of John, because my Father in heaven has revealed this to you. You did not learn this from any human being.

Matthew 16:21-22 (NLT) From then on Jesus began to tell his disciples plainly that it was necessary for him to go to Jerusalem, and that he would suffer many terrible things at the hands of the elders, the leading priests, and the teachers of religious law. He would be killed, but on the third day he would be raised from the dead.²² But Peter took him aside and began to reprimand him for saying such things. “Heaven forbid, Lord,” he said. “This will never happen to you!”

Matthew 16:23 (NLT) Jesus turned to Peter and said, “Get away from me, Satan! You are a dangerous trap to me. You are seeing things merely from a human point of view, not from God’s.”

Matthew 16:24-25 (NLT) Then Jesus said to his disciples, “If any of you wants to be my follower, you must give up your own way, take up your cross, and follow me.²⁵ If you try to hang on to your life, you will lose it. But if you give up your life for my sake, you will save it.

- Jesus calls every disciple to embrace a way of life informed by the crucifixion.
- The world disciples us to be popular, great, successful, & to avoid suffering & failure.
- Jesus disciples us to reflect Him in being cross-centred followers. How do we do this?
 - 1) We reject popularity to be popular with Jesus.
 - 2) We reject “greatness-ism” to be great with Jesus.
 - 3) We reject “success-ism” to be a success with Jesus.
 - 4) We embrace suffering & failure to be faithful to Jesus.

Big Idea: Embrace your identity as a cross-centred disciple of Jesus Christ.

- Relax in Christ.
- Detach for Jesus.
- Listen to Jesus.

Matthew 16:24-26 (MSG) Then Jesus went to work on his disciples. “Anyone who intends to come with me has to let me lead. You’re not in the driver’s seat; I am. Don’t run from suffering; embrace it. Follow me and I’ll show you how. Self-help is no help at all. Self-sacrifice is the way, my way, to finding yourself, your true self. What kind of deal is it to get everything you want but lose yourself? What could you ever trade your soul for?”



Sequoia Impact Communities are where we
live out our identity as a
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Follow the Crucified King
#2 of 7 - October 17, 2021

- 1) Last week we looked at the story of Mary and Martha found in Luke 10:38-42. We talked about the importance of “Being” before “Doing” for God. Where did you see God working in your life in this regard this past week? How did your action step go?
- 2) Read Matthew 16:13-26. What is the **Context** for this passage? Where is this taking place in the book as a whole (what comes before or after)? Who is the writer and who are the recipients? Where does it fit in the Bible? What’s the theme of this chapter, or passage? What’s the historical and cultural context?
- 3) **Observation:** What “jumps out” in this passage? What interesting details do you observe? Is anything repeated? What questions come up about the passage? What surprises you in the passage? Are there connecting words or ideas?
- 4) **Meaning:** What meaning is inferred in this passage and what does this tell us about Jesus as the Messiah? What is Christ teaching about life and what implications does this have for followers of Christ?
- 5) What does it mean to “give up your own way, take up your cross and follow Jesus?” Why is this necessary to follow Jesus as Saviour and Lord? What does it look like to be a “cross-centred” disciple of Jesus?
- 6) **Application:** How does this passage call on you to change the way you live? What will you do this week as a result of this teaching? What aspect of this teaching do you need to pass on to others?



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