

The Cost Of Discipleship

Luke 9:23-25

"A faith in Jesus that gives nothing, costs nothing, and suffers nothing, is worth nothing." - Martin Luther

Luke 9:23: Then He said to them all, "If anyone desires to come after Me, let him deny himself, and take up his cross daily, and follow Me."

Mark 8:34: When He had called the people to Himself, with His disciples.

If anyone desires: Jesus calls to anyones (if anyone hears, if anyone thirsts, door) and whoevers (whoever believes, whoever lives and believes, whoever drinks of the water of life)

come after Me: be my follower, be my disciple

let him deny himself: forsake the self life

Amplified: deny himself [disown himself, forget, lose sight of himself and his own interests, refuse and give up himself]

In the world when you give up you **lose**. In the kingdom when you give up you **win!**

Instead of living for **self**, Jesus models living for

- the Father: Matthew 26 / John 8:29 / 2 Corin. 5:9 / Colossians 1:10
- others: Philippians 2 - esteeming others and interests of others higher than one's own

Jesus is calling us to follow - J.O.Y.

and take up his cross:

- The cross today is viewed by some as cool, trendy, sexy. In reality, the cross was an instrument of death used by the Roman government to kill its most vile offenders.
- Taking up your cross meant the soon-to-be crucified victim would carry the crossbar of the cross to his place of execution.

- Taking up your cross meant that your life in this world was about to come to an end.

Galatians 2:20: I have been crucified with Christ; it is no longer I who live, but Christ lives in me; and the life which I now live in the flesh I live by faith in the Son of God, who loved me and gave Himself for me.

and take up his cross daily: "I die daily!" 1 Corinthians 15:31

Justification: once in a lifetime - a miracle of a moment when Christ's righteousness is applied to your account.

Sanctification: daily! The Holy Spirit is working every day to make you more like Christ.

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Not "listen to Me" **but** "follow Me" - do!

Not following an idea, a culture, certain truths...follow Me!

Luke 9:24: For whoever desires to save (find) his life will lose it, but whoever loses his life for My sake will save it (find it).

Luke 9:25: For what profit is it to a man if he gains the whole world, and is himself (soul) destroyed or lost?

What would you give in exchange for your soul?

Luke 9:26: For whoever is ashamed of Me and My words, (in this adulterous and evil generation) of him the Son of Man will be ashamed when He comes in His own glory, and in His Father's, and of the holy angels.

Matthew 10:33

House Church Study Guide

- “The **Cost** of Discipleship”
- Luke 9:23-25
- Pastor Rob Verdeyen

“A faith in Jesus that gives nothing, costs nothing, and suffers nothing, is worth nothing.” - Martin Luther

How does this quote from Martin Luther, the 16th century German reformer speak to you?

Points To Ponder

1. Jesus models and calls us **not** to the self life but a life lived to please the Father (Matthew 26:36-46) and a life given to serve others (Philippians 2:3-11).
2. Jesus in our text calls to “anyone who desires” to come after Him.
3. We learn from Jesus that Salvation involves **both** God sovereignly drawing a person to Jesus (John 6:44, 65) **and** a person choosing and desiring to follow Jesus (Luke 9:23).

Questions to Ask from Luke 9:23

1. What did Jesus mean when he said “deny himself”?
2. What did Jesus mean when he said “take up your cross”?
3. What does take up your cross daily mean?
4. What is the difference between justification and sanctification?
5. Do you think Jesus’ coming is near? Why? (Luke 9:26)