



## Get Over Yourself

### Scripture Reading

Mark 8:31-38 (NKJV)

31 And He began to teach them that the Son of Man must suffer many things, and be rejected by the elders and chief priests and scribes, and be killed, and after three days rise again. 32 He spoke this word openly. Then Peter took Him aside and began to rebuke Him. 33 But when He had turned around and looked at His disciples, He rebuked Peter, saying, "Get behind Me, Satan! For you are not mindful of the things of God, but the things of men."

34 When He had called the people to Himself, with His disciples also, He said to them, "Whoever desires to come after Me, let him deny himself, and take up his cross, and follow Me. 35 For whoever desires to save his life will lose it, but whoever loses his life for My sake and the gospel's will save it. 36 For what will it profit a man if he gains the whole world, and loses his own soul? 37 Or what will a man give in exchange for his soul? 38 For whoever is ashamed of Me and My words in this adulterous and sinful generation, of him the Son of Man also will be ashamed when He comes in the glory of His Father with the holy angels."

(Matt. 16:28—17:13; Luke 9:27—36; 2 Pet. 1:16—18)

### Introduction

Coming off of our series on Peter; his faith journey, his battles with surrender, his impulsiveness, denials and ultimate restoration and boldness, we that Simon's journey to becoming Peter required him to come out of his old self and surrender to the new identity that the Lord had for him. **1** It wasn't Jesus that Peter needed to deny to be in a better place in his journey—it was himself!

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### Immediate lessons from this Scripture passage:

1. The open rebuke of Satan's use of "self-orientated thinking" (verses 31-33)
  - Jesus was literally giving a revelation to His followers about His ultimate denial of self, openly and in public, when Peter pulled him to the side privately and tried to rebuke Jesus for doing so
    - but the rebuke of Satan working in Peter was also done in the presence of the disciples
2. You cannot follow Jesus out of self-interest because Jesus was a "self-denier." (verse 34)
  - Many people wanted to follow Jesus and be attached to His movement but what was their motive?
    - some followed to get fed
    - some followed for the miracles
    - some followed because of the hype around Jesus
    - some followed for what they could get out of it
  - If the goal is numbers, "self-orientated" ministry will always grow faster
    - teach me how to get what I want from God
    - teach me how to live my purpose
    - teach me how to realize my vision
    - teach me how to prosper my family
    - teach me how to maximize my potential
    - teach me how to be more spiritually gifted
    - teach me how to become elevated in ministry
  - **2** The Christian life is not self-improvement - it is self-surrender
3. **3** Self preservation leads to profound loss but self-sacrifice leads to great gain
  - self pursuits lead us to acquire the value of this world while actually placing our true self (our soul) in jeopardy.
  - our true self is at risk through selfish living. This is the true deception of Satan from the Garden and continues today.
  - we will selfishly seek to acquire things that will not remain nor go with us into the next life
4. This world ascribes shame to those who don't value its bounties. To deny the world and to deny oneself is to court shame for doing so. Accepting that shame leads Christ to be ashamed of us.
  - others opinions of your choice of self-denial shouldn't matter to you more than Christ's

approval.

- Peter felt ashamed of what Jesus was openly affirming—His sacrifice. Peter didn't feel that sacrifice was strength—he interpreted it as unnecessary weakness. He didn't understand the greater strength of surrender.

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### 4 Getting Acquainted with One's Self

- Our preferences.
- Our ambitions.
- Our fears.
- Our need to be right.
- Our need to be recognized.
- Our need to stay comfortable.

#### These lead to:

- Self interest
- Self pride
- Self loathing
- Self agenda
- Self wisdom

#### Truths we can apply:

- Self dealing love is not true love
- Self dealing kindness is not true kindness
- Self dealing ministry is not true ministry

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### Self VS the Spirit of God

Romans 8:5-11 (NKJV)

5 For those who live according to the flesh set their minds on the things of the flesh, but those who live according to the Spirit, the things of the Spirit. 6 For to be carnally minded is death, but to be spiritually minded is life and peace. 7 Because the carnal mind is enmity against God; for it is not subject to the law of God, nor indeed can be. 8 So then, those who are in the flesh cannot please God.

9 But you are not in the flesh but in the Spirit, if indeed the Spirit of God dwells in you. Now if anyone does not have the Spirit of Christ, he is not His. 10 And if Christ is in you, the body is dead because of sin, but the Spirit is life because of righteousness. 11 But if the Spirit of Him who raised Jesus from the dead dwells in you, He who raised Christ from the dead will also give life to your

mortal bodies through His Spirit who dwells in you.

- Our struggle to yield to the Spirit
- Our resistance to surrender
- The courage it takes to be calm and come to Him
- The suppression of self to be more spiritually minded
- The ease of doing what comes natural vs the strive to desire the things of the Spirit

**5** Pleasing ourselves always feels good.

Pleasing God is not about feeling good - it's about Him having His way

**Close 6**

- Do you feel your self and your wants competing with what you know God wants for your life?
- Are you wrestling with self-doubt, too self-conscious, insecurity?
- Are you too focused on yourself in an un-healthy way?
- How is it affecting your relationship with God?
- How is it affecting your relationship with others?
- Do you feel you need to "Get Past" yourself?

Ephesians 2:10 (NKJV)

10 For we are His workmanship, created in Christ Jesus for good works, which God prepared beforehand that we should walk in them.

First, we are His idea, His handiwork, His design, and He already has a plan for us. And He's made preparations for us. That takes the focus and weight off of us and places our focus on Him and His power to fulfill what He's already purposed. Our power and purpose is to yield to and discover His will.