

Carry Your Cross
Luke 9:18-27



The Cross

- Luke 9:23

23 And he said to all, “If anyone would come after me, let him deny himself and take up his cross daily and follow me.

Upside Down Nature of the Cross

- Jesus' teachings were upside down to the way people ordinarily look at life.
- Isaiah 55:8-9

For my thoughts are not your thoughts, neither are your ways my ways, declares the Lord. For as the heavens are higher than the earth, so are my ways higher than your ways and my thoughts than your thoughts.

- And this teaching about the Cross is so difficult for people to wrap their minds around.
- 1 Corinthians 1:18

For the word of the cross is folly to those who are perishing, but to us who are being saved it is the power of God.

Who Do You Say That I am

- Luke 9:18-20

18 Now it happened that as he was praying alone, the disciples were with him. And he asked them, “Who do the crowds say that I am?” 19 And they answered, “John the Baptist. But others say, Elijah, and others, that one of the prophets of old has risen.” 20 Then he said to them, “But who do you say that I am?” And Peter answered, “The Christ of God.”

- Jesus our Foundation
- 1 Corinthians 3:11

11 For no one can lay a foundation other than that which is laid, which is Jesus Christ.

The Son of Man Must Suffer

- Luke 9:22

“The Son of Man must suffer many things and be rejected by the elders and chief priests and scribes, and be killed, and on the third day be raised.”

Take Up Your Cross and Daily Follow Jesus

- Luke 9:23

And he said to all, “If anyone would come after me, let him deny himself and take up his cross daily and follow me.”

- 1st Peter declares that Jesus is the Christ the Son of the Living God
- THEN Jesus uses this confession to teach about His imminent death
- Jesus builds on those truths:
 1. I am the Son of God
 2. I have come to die for your sins
 3. And I will have taken up MY cross for you
 4. NOW – you’ll need to take up your cross for me.

Crucified With Christ

- People Crucified with Christ have 3 Distinct Marks
 1. They are facing only one direction.
 2. They can never turn back.
 3. They no longer have plans of their own.

Simon of Cyrene

- Mark 15:21

21 And they compelled a passerby, Simon of Cyrene, who was coming in from the country, the father of Alexander and Rufus, to carry his cross.

Hymn – I Have Decided to Follow Jesus

“I have decided to follow Jesus

I have decided to follow Jesus

I have decided to follow Jesus

No turning back

No turning back.”

Feeling the Weight of the Cross

- If we can't feel the weight of His cross in our lives... it's impossible for us to truly live as Christians
- But when we take up our cross and follow Jesus:
 1. We're not playing a part
 2. We're not playing church
 3. We're honoring our Savior

Galatians 6:14

- Galatians 6:14

14 But far be it from me to boast except in the cross of our Lord Jesus Christ, by which the world has been crucified to me, and I to the world.

Are You Bearing Your Cross?



Feeling the Weight of the Cross

