

## SO YOU WANT TO BE LIKE JESUS?

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Read Mark 8: 35-37

35 For whoever wants to save their life[a] will lose it, but whoever loses their life for me and for the gospel will save it.

36 What good is it for someone to gain the whole world, yet forfeit their soul? 37 Or what can anyone give in exchange for their soul?

## WE ARE TALKING ABOUT WHAT IT MEANS TO BE A DISCIPLE OF JESUS. DO YOU KNOW WHAT A DISCIPLE IS?

[A disciple is a learner, a follower; to be a disciple of Jesus means that we follow Jesus. But as Jesus mentions in our text, such discipleship requires a cost. To be a true disciple of Jesus is to put Him first.]

What are some examples of things we need to give up to be a follower of Jesus?

What are you willing to give up? What are you willing to sacrifice for God?

I know that's a lot of big questions. Might even make you feel uncomfortable a little bit talking about it.

But sometimes you have to ask yourself and see what you are willing to do.

When Jesus was tempted in the desert, he was willing to give up power, fame and glory, and he trusted His father above. He gave up what all humans wanted, because he knew what God has planned for him in Heaven. His true goal was to live out the Father's will.

There are a lot of different directions to turn in your life, but you have to be careful to make the right one. The bible says

"Whether you turn to the right or left, your ears will hear a voice behind you, saying "This is the wav: walk in it" Isaiah 30:21 When the disciples went to follow Jesus they had to give up a lot of things like their home and just follow Jesus around everywhere. I'm sure they had times where they wish they could stay home and be in one place, but they knew their hearts desire was to follow Jesus.

We all have a spiritual calling upon us, but if we serve ourselves and NOT God, we will miss our calling.

Parents, pray over your kids. Then ask your kids to pray over you.

Now, pray over them, then ask them to pray for you. Let each child lead family in prayer. If they feel emotional, reassure them, they are feeling the presence of God. They could receive the gift of tongues in your home.