

Sacred Journey: From Death to Life | March 3, 2024

Discipleship and Carrying Our Cross: Luke 9:23-26



Luke 9:23-26 | 🇩🇪 > 🌐 | The Cross [is] over the world

Verse 23:

1. Denial of Self | Focus on more than just yourself.
 - a. Galatians 2:20 | "*no longer I..., but Christ who lives in me*"
 - b. Romans 12:1-2 | "*present your bodies as a living sacrifice...*"
2. Taking up one's cross | You are **not** alone!
 - a. 2 Timothy 2:3-4 | "*Share in suffering...*"
 - b. Galatians 6:2 | "*Bear one another's burdens...*"
3. Follow Christ | "*Follow Me*" - Christ (Mark 1:17 and Matthew 4:19)
 - a. 1 Peter 2:21 | Christ left an example "so that you might follow in his footsteps"
 - b. Philippians 1:21 | "...to live is Christ..."

Question for reflection based on Verse 24:

*Will **you** believe in the Lord and be saved or will you choose to do it on your own?*

Verse 25: *For what does it **profit**¹ a man if he gains the whole **world**² and **loses**³ or **forfeits**⁴ himself?*

Ontario Community Church: Encouraging, Equipping and Engaging lives for Christ.
John 6:47 (ESV) "Truly, truly, I say to you, whoever **believes** has eternal life."

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Profit¹ = benefit, advantage, profit.

World² = the *kosmos*.

A life without Christ:

1. You will **lose**³: *perish or be destroyed*.
 - c. John 3:16 | ...whoever believes in him should not *perish*...
2. You will **forfeit**⁴ yourself: *cast away, or suffer loss*.
 - a. Philippians 3:8 | ... for his sake *I have suffered the loss* of all things...

We may lose all material things in life, but to know Christ is to have a firm foundation (1 Corinthians 3:11), to be **found** in Him (Philippians 3:9), and to have the *blessed assurance* (Hebrews 10:22), knowing that we are safe and secure (John 10:28-29). **Nothing** can separate us from the Lord (Romans 8:38-39), if we but change our mind (Romans 12:2), and believe in Him (John 3:16).

Simon of Cyrene: Denied himself, picked up his cross, and followed Christ: *Matthew 27:32, Mark 15:21, and Luke 23:26*



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