

Day 1: Understanding True Discipleship

Bible Reading: Luke 9:23-24

Devotional

Today, let's contemplate the depth of Jesus' call to discipleship. Denying ourselves means setting aside our selfish desires and priorities to follow Jesus wholeheartedly. Reflect on areas of your life where you may be holding back from fully committing to Christ. As you meditate on these verses, ask yourself how you can embrace the self-sacrifice required to be a true follower of Jesus.

Questions for Reflection

- 1. What does 'denying yourself' look like in practical terms in your daily life?
- 2. How can taking up your cross daily change your approach to challenges and difficulties?

Day 2: The Transformation of Identity

Bible Reading: 2 Corinthians 5:17

Devotional

On this day, consider the transformation that occurs when we accept Christ into our lives. As new creations, our identities shift from being rooted in the world to being grounded in Christ. Ponder the changes you've experienced since beginning your walk with Jesus and the areas where you're still growing.

Questions for Reflection

- 1. What old habits or mindsets have you had to leave behind since becoming a follower of Jesus?
- 2. In what ways do you see yourself as a new creation in Christ?



Day 3: The Cost of Discipleship

Bible Reading: Matthew 16:24-25

Devotional

Today, let's delve into the cost of following Jesus. It involves a willingness to give up our plans and desires for His. Consider what 'taking up your cross' might mean for you in the modern context. Seek wisdom in how you can live out this radical commitment in your personal, social, and spiritual life.

Question for Reflection

- 1. What are some 'crosses' you might need to bear in your commitment to following Jesus?
- 2. How does the idea of losing your life to find it in Jesus resonate with you?

Day 4: Living Out Your Faith Amidst Trials

Bible Reading: James 1:2-4

Devotional

In the midst of trials, it's challenging to find joy. Yet, James encourages us to view these hardships as opportunities for growth. Reflect on recent difficulties and how they have tested and strengthened your faith. Contemplate how you can continue to grow in perseverance and maturity through these experiences.

Question for Reflection

- 1. How can you practice considering trials as joy in your walk with Christ?
- 2. What does spiritual maturity look like to you, and how can trials help you reach it?

DISCOMFORT



Day 5: The Joy of Discipleship

Bible Reading: Matthew 5:11-12

Devotional

On our final day, let's focus on the joy and blessings that come with discipleship. Jesus assures us that despite the persecutions and challenges, our reward in heaven is great. Spend time in prayer thanking Jesus for the privilege of following Him and for the eternal joy that awaits us.

Questions for Reflection

- 1. How can you find peace and joy in the face of persecution for your faith?
- 2. What are some ways you can remind yourself of the heavenly reward that awaits you as you endure challenges for Christ's sake?