

DISCOMFORT

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

1. Reflecting on the 'Side Effects' of following Jesus, how do we reconcile the promise of Jesus' peace (John 14:27) with the hardships we face as His disciples? Discuss times when you've experienced these 'side effects' and how you've dealt with them.
2. In the sermon, the concept of cultural Christianity versus true transformation in Christ was discussed. How do we ensure our faith is more than cultural, aligning with the transformative process described in Romans 12:2?
3. Jesus' call to His followers includes a radical commitment that often leads to personal and social upheavals. How can Matthew 16:24-26 inform our understanding of what it means to 'take up your cross' and follow Him?
4. Consider the idea that discomfort can lead to growth in our spiritual journey. Can you think of biblical examples where individuals grew through discomfort, and how might these stories encourage us in our walk? (Consider James 1:2-4)
5. Discuss the implications of Jesus' correction being an act of love. How does Hebrews 12:5-11 shape our understanding of divine discipline and its place in our lives?
6. The sermon highlighted the difference between being a fan of Jesus versus a follower. What are the characteristics of a true follower based on Luke 9:23, and how do we examine ourselves to see where we stand?
7. Bearing your cross can be misunderstood in today's culture. Discuss the historical context of this phrase and how it changes our perspective on what Jesus expects from us as His disciples. (Refer to Luke 14:27)
8. The sermon concluded with the notion that trials faced with Jesus lead to a life fully embraced by His love. Share how the Beatitudes in Matthew 5:10-12 have provided comfort or challenge in your experience of trials for your faith.
9. Reflecting on the idea of an unfiltered journey with Christ, how does 2 Corinthians 4:8-9 help us understand the resilience required in the face of challenges?
10. The sermon urged believers to seek spiritual growth that goes beyond surface-level beliefs. Discuss how 1 Peter 2:2-3 and Ephesians 4:14-15 guide us in pursuing deeper spiritual maturity.