

Series "The God Who Serves"
"Great Gain From Loss"
Mark 8:34-9:1
Study-31

Matthew 10:32-39

Luke 9:57-62

Recorded in 3 Gospels: Matthew 16:24-28; Mark 8:34-9:1; Luke 9:23-27

Thought Of Our Passage: "Self-Denial, Cross-Bearing, And Obedience All Go Together; It Means Being Ashamed Of Self But Not Of Jesus Christ."

1. Verses 34-37 – The Call Of Commitment

2. Verse 38 – The Failure Of Commitment

3. Verse 1 – The Encouragement Of Commitment

1. Verses 34-37 – The Call Of Commitment:

Mark 8:34

"And" – Mark 8:27 – "Who do people say that I am?"

Mark 8:29 – "But who do you say that I am?"

Mark 8:31 – "And He began to teach"

Mark 8:32-33

Jesus Gives 3 Conditions For Discipleship!:

1. Deny Yourself: (Disown Yourself) – "let him deny himself,": Greek aorist tense; speaks of a definite decision.

"deny himself" – verb means "to refuse to associate with, or to companion with someone." What He is saying is, "to dis-own yourself, I no longer want to associate with the person that I am. I realize my sinfulness. I realize I cannot earn God's grace; I abandon my self-effort to be good enough for God to accept me. I abandon all self-confidence, self-will. I abandon my own ambitions, my own agenda, my own plans."

Matthew 5:3

Romans 12:1

Gal 2:20

"Nothing I've achieved is worthy of salvation. Nothing I could do or have done is worthy of forgiveness. I abandon all self-effort and with that, I acknowledge Christ as Lord and I turn my life over to Him. His ambition becomes mine. His will becomes mine. His purpose becomes mine."

2. Take Up His Cross: (Shame, Reproach) "and take up his cross" – Greek aorist tense speaks of a definite decision.

The Cross – a metaphor for suffering.

Take up the cross – means "to say yes to difficulties for Jesus sake, identify with Christ in His rejection, shame, suffering, and death, walking in Christ's steps, embracing His life."

The cross is an instrument of death. It is voluntary acceptance of something we can reject. We will be regarded by the world as outcasts, laughed at, made fun of, misunderstood for His sake.

3. Follow Jesus: "and follow Me" – (Obedience, Doing What Jesus Says) Greek present tense, speaks of continually following. This speaks of "moment by moment obedience until one's death; to imitate."

1 John 2:6

John 8:31

Mark 8:35

Jesus Gives 2 Alternatives To Life:

1. Jesus Gives A Warning: "For whoever wishes to save his life shall lose it;"

The Keepers Are The Losers! And The Losers Are The Keepers!

2. Jesus Gives A Promise: "but whoever loses his life for My sake and the gospel's shall save it."

2 Corinthians 5:14-15

Present Life – 2 Cor 5:17

Eternal Life – Matt 19:29

Mark 8:36

The Indescribable Value Of The Soul.

“The man who loses his own soul in the process of gaining the whole world is exchanging his future glory for a temporary reward.”

Mark 8:37 – “For what shall a man give in exchange for his soul?” Answer – “Nothing!”

Exchange – “a price given in exchange for something purchased”

Hebrews 12:16-17

2. Verse 38 – The Failure Of Commitment:

Mark 8:38

Romans 1:16

The Person That Is Not Ashamed Of Themselves Will Mean They Are Ashamed Of Jesus Christ!

The Literal Sense – adulterous – of persons in a sinful relationship with one or both married persons.

Spiritual Sense – Isaiah 57:3

Hosea 2

“the Son of Man” – a Messianic title, Ezekiel 43:17 and Daniel 7:13; 8:17

Romans 9:33

“when He comes in the glory of His Father with the holy angels.” – Notice the assurance of Jesus coming back, to set up His Kingdom.

Mark 13:26-27

The Saved – 1 Cor 3:12-15

The Unserved – Rev 20:11-15

3. Verse 1 – The Encouragement Of Commitment:

Mark 9:1

“Truly I say to you,” – “This is the truth, this is of the truth!”

Jesus is referring to the transfiguration, Mark 9:2-9

2 Peter 1:16-18

Application:

1. Deny Yourself – Means To Disown Yourself, Abandon Self-confidence, Self-will, Abandon My Own Ambitions, My Own Agenda, My Own Plans.
2. Take Up His Cross – Means To Accept Shame, Reproach For Jesus Sake. Identifying With His Rejection, Suffering, And Death, Walking In Christ’s Steps, Embracing His life.
3. Follow Jesus – Means Obedience, Doing What Jesus Says, Moment-By-Moment Obedience Until One’s Death; To Imitate Jesus.
4. Nothing Is More Valuable Than The Soul. Once We Have Spent Our Lives, There Is No Buying Them Back.
5. True Conversion Views Christ, The Gospel, Salvation And Heaven As So Precious That No Personal Sacrifice Is Too Much.