

SERMON-BASED STUDY: LOSE YOURSELF

Matthew 16:21-27, ESV – ²¹ From that time Jesus began to show his disciples that he must go to Jerusalem and suffer many things from the elders and chief priests and scribes, and be killed, and on the third day be raised. ²² And Peter took him aside and began to rebuke him, saying, “Far be it from you, Lord! This shall never happen to you.” ²³ But he turned and said to Peter, “Get behind me, Satan! You are a hindrance to me. For you are not setting your mind on the things of God, but on the things of man.”

²⁴ Then Jesus told his disciples, “If anyone would come after me, let him deny himself and take up his cross and follow me. ²⁵ For whoever would save his life will lose it, but whoever loses his life for my sake will find it. ²⁶ For what will it profit a man if he gains the whole world and forfeits his soul? Or what shall a man give in return for his soul? ²⁷ For the Son of Man is going to come with his angels in the glory of his Father, and then he will repay each person according to what he has done.

Notes:

- 1.
- 2.
- 3.
- 4.
- 5.

QUICK REVIEW

Looking back at your notes from this week’s teaching, was there anything you heard for the first time or that caught your attention, challenged, or confused you?

ENGAGE WITH THE MESSAGE

- 1 This week we learned that Jesus announces the plan for eternal life. Describe the plan in your own words. Why did it have to be this way?

2 How do people reject the plan? Why do they reject the plan?

3 What does it mean that ‘it’s who you know and who you have, not what you know or what you have’?

DIGGING DEEPER

A **1 Corinthians 15:3-8, ESV** – ³ For I delivered to you as of first importance what I also received: that Christ died for our sins in accordance with the Scriptures, ⁴ that he was buried, that he was raised on the third day in accordance with the Scriptures, ⁵ and that he appeared to Cephas, then to the twelve. ⁶ Then he appeared to more than five hundred brothers at one time, most of whom are still alive, though some have fallen asleep. ⁷ Then he appeared to James, then to all the apostles. ⁸ Last of all, as to one untimely born, he appeared also to me.

4 What is Paul’s point in saying that the gospel, which he preached, is the gospel that he also received?

5 How did Jesus’ life fulfill the Scriptures? What are the key points of the gospel?

6 In verses 5-8, Paul gives a sequence of post-resurrection appearances. Who did Christ appear to? Why are these appearances important?

B **Galatians 2:20-21, ESV** – ²⁰ I have been crucified with Christ. It is no longer I who live, but Christ who lives in me. And the life I now live in the flesh I live by faith in the Son of God, who loved me and gave himself for me. ²¹ I do not nullify the grace of God, for if righteousness were through the law, then Christ died for no purpose.

7 What does Paul mean by saying he “has been crucified with Christ”? Why is this participation so central for Paul?

8 What is it that “nullifies the grace of God”? How do you find yourself departing from grace? How can this be avoided?

9 What is Jesus’ relationship to the Law? In what ways are you tempted to trust in your works instead of in Christ alone?

TAKING IT HOME

This week, we learned that truly following Jesus means to put to death our “old self” and live a “new life” in Him. What are the old areas of your life that have a tendency to rebuild themselves? What step of faith is God calling you to in light of this sermon? Share with your group or accountability partner what God has been showing you. Pray for one another as you seek to live fully in the new life you have in Christ.

PRAISES AND PRAYER REQUEST

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FOR FURTHER STUDY

Matthew 16:13-20
Romans 6:23