

# TAKE UP YOUR CROSS

[Mark 8:31-38]



Jesus talks about the kind of  
'*passio*' suffering he will face.  
(v.32-32)



The path that Christ had chosen is a **PREAMBLE** of the kind of path we are called to follow. (v.33)



“Whoever wants to be my  
disciple must...” (v.34)

# TO BE A DISCIPLE OF CHRIST:

- **DENY OURSELVES**
- **TAKE UP OUR CROSS**
- **FOLLOW CHRIST**

**TO BE A DISCIPLE OF CHRIST:**

- **DENY OURSELVES**

“Deny” = *aparneomai* (to completely give up)

What are we called to  
give up completely?



To give up **EVERYTHING**  
that separates us from God –  
The worship of **ONE GOD!**



*Wholed Hearted*

Who or what is STILL  
occupying the THRONE of  
our lives?



The story of the rich young ruler. (Mark 10:17-25)



“What good is it for someone to gain the whole world, yet forfeit their soul? Or what can anyone give in exchange for their soul?” (vv.36-37)

OUR RESPONSE:

“DENY OURSELVES” – **GIVE UP**  
completely what is on our  
throne!



**TO BE A DISCIPLE OF CHRIST:**

- **TAKE UP OUR CROSS**

“Take up their cross  
daily.” (Luke 9:23)

The CROSS – a symbol of  
DYING to self.





Requires an intentional &  
deliberate effort to GIVE  
UP our RIGHTS!

What's **HINDERING** us  
from giving up our rights, to  
live a life of the **CROSS**?



Christ sets the example –  
sacrifice & servanthood.  
(Phi 2:6-8)



“For whoever wants to save  
their life will lose it, but  
whoever loses their life for me  
and for the gospel will save  
it.” (V.35)

OUR RESPONSE:

“TAKE UP OUR CROSS” – **GIVE UP** our rights and instead do what is right in God.



# TO BE A DISCIPLE OF CHRIST:

- FOLLOW CHRIST

“Follow” = *akoloutheo* – (to walk in exact foot steps of the predecessor)



How are we to walk in the exact foot steps of Christ? –

*“teaching them to obey everything I have commanded you.” (Matt 28:20)*



To be DISCIPLED and to  
DISCIPLE others.  
(2 Tim 2:2)



Discipleship

A Christian life without  
discipleship is like a soldier  
given a rifle without  
instructions on how to use it.



“If anyone is ashamed of me  
and my words in this adulterous  
and sinful generation, the Son  
of Man will be ashamed of  
them when he comes in his  
Father’s glory with the holy  
angels.” (v.38)

## OUR RESPONSE:

“FOLLOW CHRIST” – **GIVE UP**  
our excuses from being  
disciplined & to disciple others.



## OUR RESPONSE:

3 things to **GIVE UP**: our  
throne; our rights & our  
excuses.



To be a disciple of Christ, we  
need to take the path of  
'*passio*' (suffering) that leads  
to victorious living!

