

ALL IN

Choosing God over Self

MARCH 10, 2024

To be all in as a follower of Jesus means that we have the promise of life to its fullest, but it also means we have to deny ourselves, to take up our cross, to surrender. This brings us to a decision: do we live for ourselves, or live for God?

MESSAGE NOTES AND HIGHLIGHTS

- For God so loved the world that he gave his one and only Son, that whoever believes in him shall not perish but have eternal life. | John 3:16
 - On the one hand, Christianity has the greatest invitation of all time.
 - On the other hand, Christianity has the greatest expectation.
 - “Whoever wants to be my disciple must deny themselves and take up their cross and follow me.” | Matthew 16:24
 - Deny your “self” not deny yourself.
 - Dying to your self doesn’t mean dying to your personality or passion. It means dying to your selfishness and your sinful nature.
 - Dying to self means surrender and sacrifice.
 - A disciple is like an apprentice. An apprentice's goal is to learn to become just like the person they are following.
 - Anyone who places self above God will lose. Anyone who places God above self will find true life.
 - “He is no fool who gives what he cannot keep to gain that which he cannot lose.” | Jim Elliot
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DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

1. When Jesus says that anyone who wants to be his disciple must deny themselves and take up their cross, what’s your initial reaction? Do you find that to be a difficult teaching to grapple with?
2. Almost everything that’s truly worth it in life requires sacrifice of some sort. In what ways have you seen this to be true in your life?
3. Why do you think Jesus calls us to deny ourselves and take up our crosses in order to follow him?
4. As you think about what it means to deny one’s self and take up your cross, what do you think is one area in your life that you are holding onto the most—holding onto control, not surrendering—instead of trusting God and surrendering?