



LIFE GROUP GUIDE

CONNECT • GROW • SHARE • PRACTICE

May 1, 4 2025

Submit: Mark 8:34, Luke 9:23

Connect (10-15 mins)

1. Follow up on any prayer requests or difficult circumstances shared in your group from last week.

Grow (10-15 mins)

2. In light of the practice from last week of “denying yourself”, share ways in which you said no to yourself over this past week. How did that impact your relationship with others or the Lord?

Share (15-30 mins)

3. Read Mark 8:27-34. Have someone recap the sermon in 1-2 minutes. What was most meaningful or significant from last week’s sermon?
4. In what ways have you understood the phrase “cross to bear” in your past? How did the explanation of what Jesus intended by this phrase change after this message?
5. Read Luke 9:23-24. How does this verse compare or contrast to what is written in Mark 8:34? What implications does dying to self, *daily* have on eternal life and your daily life?
6. Dying to self does not mean self reliance or self sufficiency, a white knuckling, do-it-on-your-own type of dealing with our flesh. How does the Spirit offer us help in taking up our cross daily? What verses come to mind or circumstances have you had where the Lord has helped you walk by the Spirit rather than satisfy the flesh?

Practice: Embracing the Gospel Overtime (30-45 mins)

As you consider what it means to “take up your cross daily” as a way to crucify your flesh, what things come to mind you need to nail to the cross? Share with your group.

Let’s take it further . . .

“If God doesn’t rule your mundane, then he doesn’t rule you, because that’s where you live.”

-Paul David Tripp

Take a few moments to reflect on your day, just an average day in your life. Where did you experience walking in the flesh, *today*? What mundane parts of your life do you need to bring to the cross? Why would these small, ordinary parts of your day matter to the Lord in regards to “taking up your cross”?



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Let's make it practical . . .

- Take some time in your group to make a plan, empowered by the Spirit, to “take up your cross, daily”. What does this look like as you consider big areas of your flesh you may need accountability with? What about the mundane, small, quiet ways in your heart you need to crucify your flesh?
- Sit with the Lord for a few minutes first, to hear from Him the areas to crucify daily? Then, write out what that looks like practically lived out over the next week.
- Close by reading 1 Corinthians 10:13 and Romans 6:10-11.