

MAKING A DIFFERENCE IN YOUR WORLD

PART 4: A SURRENDERED LIFE

GOD'S TAKE ON A SURRENDERED LIFE

1. Jesus through the eyes of the world: _____

"Once when Jesus was praying in private and his disciples were with him, he asked them, 'Who do the crowds say I am?' They replied, 'Some say John the Baptist; others say Elijah; and still others, that one of the prophets of long ago has come back to life.'"

Luke 9:18-19

2. Jesus through the eyes of His followers: _____

"'But what about you?' he asked. 'Who do you say I am?' Peter answered, 'The Christ of God.'" Luke 9: 20

3. Jesus' self-revelation: _____

"Jesus strictly warned them not to tell this to anyone. And he said, 'The Son of Man must suffer many things and be rejected by the elders, chief priests and teachers of the law, and he must be killed and on the third day be raised to life.'" Luke 9:21-22

4. God's expectation of His people: _____

"Then he said to them all: 'If anyone would come after me, he must deny himself and take up his cross daily and follow me. For whoever wants to save his life will lose it, but whoever loses his life for me will save it. What good is it for a man to gain the whole world, and yet lose or forfeit his very self?'" Luke 9:23-25

DAILY MEDITATIONS

Brief daily Bible studies based on this week's message

This week's memory verse:

"Then he said to them all: 'If anyone would come after me, he must deny himself and take up his cross daily and follow me.'" Luke 9:23

Monday

Write down two ways the sermon challenged you.

1.

2.

Read Luke 9:18-26. In this passage what were Jesus and his disciples doing before He began to teach them?

How would you answer Jesus today if He asked, "Who do the crowds say I am?" What do you think shapes the world's opinion of Jesus?

Thank God today for who He is. Thank Him for the high calling He has placed on your life. Ask God to soften your heart to Him and increase your willingness and desire to follow Him.

Tuesday

Read Matt. 16:15-17, Luke 9:20 & John 20:30-32. What was the importance of Peter's recognition of Jesus' true identity?

How would you answer Him and how have you come to that answer in your life?

Why is it important for Jesus' followers to know that He is the Son of God?

How can that knowledge impact your daily life?

Thank God today for sending His Son Jesus to the earth. Thank God for the truth found in the Bible. Pray that you will live in an awareness of the fact that you are loved by God.

Wednesday

Read Matt. 20:25-28, Mark 14:32-36, Luke 9:21-22 & Phil. 2:5-11. How do these verses show Jesus' example of surrender to God's will?

What encouragement do you receive from knowing that Jesus also had to submit His will and desires?

In what are you currently struggling with surrendering your will to God's? How can you apply the verses you read today and Jesus' example to help you in that area?

Thank God today for His love for you. Thank Him that you can trust Him with your life. Talk to Him about the areas you are finding it difficult to surrender to Him. Ask Him to help you release your grip and give those to Him.

Thursday

Read Matt. 16:24-26, Mark 12:29-31, Luke 9:23-25 & John 12:23-26. Write down three things that stand out to you in these verses:

- 1.
- 2.
- 3.

What does "surrender" mean?

How have you surrendered to God in your life? What has been the impact of that?

How do a surrendered life and making a difference in the world go hand-in-hand?

Thank God today that He has a plan to use you. Talk to Him about how you would like to make a difference. Pray that your surrendered life will be used by God to lead others to Him.

Friday

Read Matt. 20:19-20, John 20:21, Acts 1:8 & Heb. 12:1-3. According to these verses, what how has God commissioned you to make a difference?

In what ways are you currently involved in fulfilling this commission?

Write down two specific things you can do to be more purposeful about fulfilling the commission of Jesus?

Thank God today that He has included you in His plan for the world! Ask Him to keep His commission at the front of your mind and give you the courage to be purposeful about fulfilling it.

Saturday

Today polish up that memory verse. Please pray for René and his family as they minister in Africa. Please pray also for services this weekend, that God's presence would be sensed in a powerful way.