



Dear Parents,

Greetings! This week we read how Jesus spoke to His followers and gave them quite a challenge. Jesus told them to "take up your cross daily and follow me." The lesson this week was entitled "Discipleship Isn't An Option," and it focused on explaining that discipleship is for every believer, not just the "super religious." As Christians, our lives should be marked by surrender to God's plan for our lives.

We looked at the following Scripture passages:

- Luke 9:23-25
- Matthew 10:38-39

You would be challenged by these passages that remind us that we live in an upside-down Kingdom. We must lose our lives to find them.

NEXT STEPS

During the next week as you have time to talk with your teenager, remember that one way that will help him or her understand and apply what he or she has learned is to explain it to someone else. Use the following questions to guide your conversation:

- You read where Jesus commanded that His followers should take up their cross and follow Him. What do you think it looks like for you to take up your cross today?
- How do you feel about "denying yourself" putting off your own desires to follow God?
- Jesus asked what it profits for someone to gain the whole world but lose himself. What things of the world are you tempted to chase after? Share with your child some past experiences when you chased after things that were not worth it in the end.

Thank you for all that you do. If you have any questions about anything, please don't hesitate to call me.

