

Faith in God Ministry Lesson Plan

Title: “Carry Your Cross: The Path to Kingdom Transformation”

Text: Matthew 16:24–28

Theme: Transformation, Identity, Obedience, Eternal Perspective

Objective:

To provide students with Kingdom insight into what it truly means to carry their cross—a personal, ongoing surrender to the Governor’s leading that results in inner transformation and true Kingdom citizenship.

Session Outline:

1. Opening Question (Reflection):

What comes to mind when you hear “carry your cross”?

Have you ever asked the King what your cross is?

2. Scriptural Foundation (Read Aloud Together):

Matthew 16:24–28 (KJV)

Focus Verse: “If any man will come after Me, let him deny himself, and take up his cross, and follow Me.”

Break the verses down as follows:

Verse 24:

"Deny himself"

Not self-hate, but self-surrender.

Denial of flesh-led life to embrace Spirit-led life.

Romans 12:1-2 – Present your body as a living sacrifice.

"Take up his cross"

Your cross = your assignment of transformation.

A place where flesh dies daily (Gal. 2:20).

It is not a burden; it's a tool for resurrection and purpose.

"Follow Me"

Not religious routine—walk in the King's example: purpose, obedience, and love.

3. Verse-by-Verse Insight:

Verse 25:

Losing your life = surrendering control.

Saving your life = clinging to comfort, fear, ego.

Kingdom Paradox: Surrender = true life.

Verse 26:

What's the value of your soul vs your success?

Many trade purpose for platforms.

Your soul is your assignment's gate—if it's lost, the mission dies with it.

Verse 27:

The Son of Man returns with reward, not just salvation.

You are accountable for what you did with your cross.

This verse confirms Kingdom citizenship is evaluated by fruit and obedience.

Verse 28:

Some won't die until they "see" the Kingdom = early access to glory, authority, and vision.

That's now, not just in Heaven.

4. Cross-References:

Galatians 2:20 – Crucified with Christ

Luke 9:23 – Daily cross

Romans 8:13 – Kill the deeds of the body by the Spirit

Philippians 3:10 – Fellowship of His sufferings

5. Real-World Application:

What Does "Your Cross" Look Like Today?

Forgiving who hurt you.

Dying to offense, pride, and fear.

Walking away from religious comfort zones.

Being obedient in hidden seasons.

Living as an Ambassador, not a church member.

6. Journal Prompt:

What is my cross in this season?

What part of my flesh must die for the King to live through me?

7. Group Discussion Questions:

1. Why do you think many avoid “their cross”?

2. How does carrying your cross reflect Kingdom authority?

3. What fruit do you expect when you embrace your cross?

8. Kingdom Activation Assignment:

“The Cross Card”

Create a visual or written card describing:

Your area of transformation.

What you're surrendering.

A prophetic declaration over your life this week.