

Answer Key

INTRODUCTION:

- Commitment, everything

I. Die to Self

- life
- life

II. Dedicate Yourself Daily:

- Decision, commitment
- Weeks
- God's presence
- Christ's
- believers

III. Discover Life Through Sacrifice:

- Resurrection, transformation
- Caterpillar
- Growth
- Freedom
- Life
-

The Good News

Therefore, since we have been justified through faith, we have peace with God through our Lord Jesus Christ, (Romans 5:1)

The Bad News

for all have sinned and fall short of the glory of God, (Romans 3:23)

The Ugly News

For the wages of sin is death, ... (Romans 6:23a)

The Great News

... but the gift of God is eternal life in Christ Jesus our Lord.
(Romans 6:23a)

Guess What?

You can become a Christian right now and experience salvation and the gift of eternal life through God's Son the Lord Jesus Christ! Simply Pray this Prayer Right Now! **"God thank you for Jesus Christ who died on the cross for my sins. Thank you for receiving what Jesus did for me on the cross as payment for my sins. Please forgive me for my sins. Right now I accept Jesus into my heart and ask that he become my Savior and Lord! Amen!"**

If you declare with your mouth, "Jesus is Lord," and believe in your heart that God raised him from the dead, you will be saved. For it is with your heart that you believe and are justified, and it is with your mouth that you profess your faith and are saved. (Romans 10:9–10)

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Sermon Notes



The graphic features a dark, textured background with a large, stylized heart in the upper right corner. The heart contains the text "St. John Baptist Church" and the motto "LOVE GOD • LOVE PEOPLE • MAKE DISCIPLES". Below the heart is a portrait of Dr. Derrick E. Reaves, D.Min. The main title "Carrying Your Cross" is written in large, white, serif font. Below it, "Luke 14:27" is written in a smaller, white, serif font. To the right of the portrait, the text "Dr. Derrick E. Reaves, D.Min. Senior Pastor-Teacher" is written. Below that, the date and time "Jan 26th | 10:45 AM CDT" are displayed, followed by the website "www.stjohnbc.org".

Luke 14:27 (ESV)

²⁷Whoever does not bear his own cross and come after me cannot be my disciple.

January 26, 2025

(Answer key located on back page)

Introduction:

Just like training for a marathon requires total _____,
following Jesus demands our _____.

I. Die to Self

-Dying to self means surrendering your entire _____ to
Christ's authority.

-Like someone in recovery, everything that feeds our old
_____ has to go.

II. Dedicate Yourself Daily

-Following Jesus isn't a one-time _____, it's a daily
_____.

-Like a marathon runner, we can't skip _____ of
training.

- Daily dedication includes:
 - Starting each day in _____ through prayer.
 - Making choices that reflect _____ teachings.
 - Staying connected to other _____.
 - Making a choice to give a regular financial _____.

III. Discover Life Through Sacrifice

-Just as Jesus' cross led to _____,
our cross-bearing leads to _____.

-Like a _____ transforming into a butterfly, our
struggles lead to new life.

-Our sacrifices result in:

-Spiritual _____

-True _____

-Abundant _____ in Christ

PERSONAL REFLECTION:

What is holding me back from fully following Christ?

COMMITMENT:

Today, I commit to surrender _____
to Christ.

NEXT STEPS:

1. Identify one area to "die to self" this week.
2. Create a daily discipleship plan.
3. Share your commitment with an accountability partner.

KEY VERSE TO REMEMBER:

"Whoever does not carry their own cross and follow me cannot
be my disciple." - Luke 14:27

NOTES:

