

**SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 22, 2026**  
**PART 5: FROM THE CRADLE TO THE CROSS —**  
***“EVEN WHEN...”***  
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**Bottom line:**

In the pursuit of living like Christ, you will look foolish and face road blocks, but when pursuing the mind of the Father, you experience the abundant life.

**Discerning God's will:**

1. Spark notes
2. Read his word
3. Pray and fast
4. Seek Godly counsel

**Matthew 16:21-23**

From that time on Jesus began to explain to his disciples that he must go to Jerusalem and suffer many things at the hands of the elders, the chief priests and the teachers of the law, and that he must be killed and on the third day be raised to life.

Peter took him aside and began to rebuke him. “Never, Lord!” he said. “This shall never happen to you!”

Jesus turned and said to Peter, “Get behind me, Satan! You are a stumbling block to me; you do not have in mind the concerns of God, but merely human concerns.”

1. **Following God does not always \_\_\_\_\_ to others.**
2. **When following God expect \_\_\_\_\_.**
3. **\_\_\_\_\_ or \_\_\_\_\_ we must pursue the cross!**

**Verses Used:**

- Matthew 28:18–20
- Isaiah 55:8–9
- Ephesians 6:10–12
- John 6:38
- Luke 22:42
- Hebrews 12:2

**Bible Accounts Referenced :**

- Genesis 6 - 9 (Noah and the ark)
- Genesis 22 (Abraham and Isaac)
- Joshua 6 (Jericho)
- Daniel 1 & 6 (Daniel's obedience in Babylon and prayer)
- Exodus 14 (Red Sea)