

ROAD TO JERUSALEM
The Roads to Easter #1
March 22, 2026

When the days drew near for him to be taken up, he set his face to go to Jerusalem. Luke 9:51 (ESV)

**Big Idea: Following Jesus is defined by His _____
not our _____. (Luke 9:21-23)**

WHAT IT MEANS TO FOLLOW JESUS

1. Deny yourself daily to _____ first in _____ . (Luke 9:23; John 5:30; Luke 22:41)
 - First in your _____ and _____ . (Luke 90:24-25)
 - First in your _____ . (Luke 14:26; John 15:13)

2. Submit yourself daily to follow Jesus _____ . (Luke 9:23)
 - Accept _____ without giving up on _____ . (Luke 9:51-56)
 - Remain resolute in _____ .

DAILY DEVOTIONS FOR THIS WEEK

Monday: Read Matthew 16:13-23. Put yourself in the place of the disciples. This is the first time Jesus spoke to them of his impending death and resurrection. How would you have responded? Peter's response is perfectly normal but still wrong. Read verses 24-27. How do you describe Jesus' requirements for "anyone" who wants to follow Him? How does this make you feel? How have you denied yourself to put Jesus first in your family, friendships, career, hobbies, investments?

Tuesday: Read Mark 8:27-38. To whom was Jesus speaking in v. 34 and beyond? How does it help you understand this passage knowing Jesus was not just speaking to the 12? His invitation to follow was for "anyone" from "the crowd" as well as "his disciples". Do you agree with this statement: "Faith that saves is a faith that follows Jesus."? V. 35 says salvation requires a person to "lose his life for my sake and the gospel's". What is God asking you to give up follow Jesus more fully?

Wednesday: Read Philippians 3:1-16 for Paul's perspective on losing things for the sake of knowing and following Christ. What did he lose? How did he feel about what he lost? How do you feel about what you gave up following Jesus? Have you ever picked back up some things you abandoned in the past? What did Paul do to keep moving from his past to follow Jesus with full devotion?

Thursday: Read 2 Timothy 3:10-17. These are some of the last written words of the Apostle Paul. We know about how he suffered for the gospel. What does he say to Timothy about other believers facing persecution? How have you experienced rejection or persecution because of your faith? How did Paul encourage Timothy to deal with persecution? How does the Bible equip us for our work?

Friday: What do the stories of the Good Samaritan (Luke 10:25-37) and the Prodigal Son (Luke 15:11-32) teach you about living SENT? What could you do to be more like the Good Samaritan? Are you more like the father of the prodigal or his older brother? Which one lived SENT? What did you learn from the prodigal about not giving up on people who reject you and God? Who is a "prodigal" in your life?