

“Fair-Weather Followers”

Matthew 16:21-28

Today's BIG IDEA:

We can't experience the victory of Christ without losing first.

1. Jesus CLARIFIES his true DESTINY (v.21-23)

A. Jesus _____ his plan (v.21)

B. Peter _____ that plan (v.22)

- *If we're not careful, we can start acting like we know better than Jesus.*

C. Jesus _____ Peter (v.23)

- *We're never more like Satan than when we place our will above God's will.*

2. Jesus CALLS his true DISCIPLES (v.24-28)

A. The **REQUIREMENT** of Jesus' followers (v.24)

i. _____

- *You can't build the kingdom of God if you're busy building your own.*

ii. _____

iii. _____

- *Many people only follow Jesus as long as he's going in the direction they want to go.*

- *The path of the Christian is the path of Christ, and the path of Christ is the cross.*

B. The _____ for Jesus' followers (v.25-27)

C. The _____ of Jesus' glory (v.28)
(2 Corinthians 4:17)

(Application Questions on back)

APPLICATION QUESTIONS:

1. Have you ever acted like you knew better than Jesus?
When/how? How did your plan work out compared to the Lord's?
2. Why do people only want to follow Jesus in "fair weather"? Why is Christ's call to deny ourselves so difficult to follow?
3. Why is it worth it to follow Jesus? What reward does he offer to those who follow him?