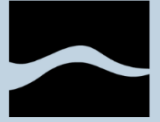


SERMON NOTES

TELL ME ABOUT HIS CALL TO FOLLOW

Mark 8:34-9:1



BIG IDEA: Faithful Christian disciples decide to follow Jesus on the path of self-sacrifice because it's the only path that leads to salvation and glory.

APPLICATION GUIDE

NOVEMBER 16, 2025

DISCUSS

What does it practically mean to deny yourself in everyday life (v. 34)?

Why is “take up your cross” more than accepting life’s hardships?

How does the paradox (“lose your life to save it”) confront the way our culture defines the “good life” (v.35)?

What does Jesus mean when he asks, “For what can a man give in return for his soul” (v. 37)?

What does it mean to be “ashamed” of Jesus and his words today (v. 38)?

Why is the Transfiguration (or Resurrection, or Pentecost) a fitting “preview” of kingdom glory (v. 1)?

How does living for eternal reward free us from the grip of earthly comforts?

APPLY

What am I refusing to deny for Christ right now? (Comfort? Sin? Pride? Control? Reputation?)

What am I holding onto that is not worth my soul? (What would I be devastated to lose? What competes with Christ?)

Where am I seeking the approval of people more than the approval of Christ? (Workplace? Friends? Social settings? Online?)

What future reward am I living for? (What promise of Christ shapes my decisions today?)

COMMIT

Choose one action this week:

- Surrender: Deny yourself in one specific, tangible area.
- Allegiance: Acknowledge Christ in a place where you’ve been silent.
- Sacrifice: Give up something temporary for something eternal.
- Hope: Meditate daily on a promise of future glory (Heb. 12:2; Rom. 8:18; 2 Tim. 4:8).