

TITLE: *“What You Gain By Letting Go”*

Confession Sets Direction

Matthew 16:13-20- "Now when Jesus came into the district of Caesarea Philippi, he asked his disciples, “Who do people say that the Son of Man is?” And they said, “Some say John the Baptist, others say Elijah, and others Jeremiah or one of the prophets.” He said to them, “But who do you say that I am?” Simon Peter replied, “You are the Christ, the Son of the living God.” And Jesus answered him, “Blessed are you, Simon Bar-Jonah! For flesh and blood has not revealed this to you, but my Father who is in heaven.”

Denial Determines Discipleship

Matthew 16:21-24- "From that time Jesus began to show his disciples that he must go to Jerusalem and suffer many things from the elders and chief priests and scribes, and be killed, and on the third day be raised. And Peter took him aside and began to rebuke him, saying, “Far be it from you, Lord! This shall never happen to you. Then Jesus told his disciples, “If anyone would come after me, let him deny himself and take up his cross and follow me.”

Following Leads to Life

Matthew 16:24-27- "Then Jesus told his disciples, “If anyone would come after me, let him deny himself and take up his cross and follow me. For whoever would save his life will lose it, but whoever loses his life for my sake will find it. For what will it profit a man if he gains the whole world and forfeits his soul? Or what shall a man give in return for his soul? For the Son of Man is going to come with his angels in the glory of his Father, and then he will repay each person according to what he has done.”

Three Ways to Follow Christ:

1. Get to know Him through the **Word and Prayer**.
2. Continue with Other **Believers**.
3. Be His **Hands and Feet**.

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- **Group questions will resume when Summer Groups begin in June.**
 - **Until then, keep an eye out for Summer Group Sign-ups beginning May 16/17.**