

# THE COSTLY CALL of Radical Discipleship

**WORD**

WITH PS SIMON SAY



## Clutching The Cross and Crown Of Christ

Luke 9:23-27 (NIV)



# Discussion Questions- Luke 9:23-26

- 1. Denying Self (v23):** What specific areas of your life (e.g., ambitions, comforts, control, reputation) do you find most challenging to deny for Christ's sake? What practical steps can you take this week to intentionally surrender one of these areas to Him?
- 2. Taking Up Your Cross (v23):** Beyond general suffering, what does "taking up your cross daily" specifically look like in your current season of life? Are there specific burdens, battles, or sacrifices Christ is calling you to embrace for His kingdom? How can you cultivate a willingness to bear these for Him?

# Discussion Questions- Luke 9:23-26

- 3. Losing to Gain (v24-25):** Reflect on Jesus' paradox: "whoever would save his life will lose it, but whoever loses his life for my sake will save it." In what ways might you be subtly trying to "save" your life (e.g., through comfort, security, worldly success) that are preventing you from truly "losing" it for Christ and experiencing His abundant life?
- 4. Ashamed or Acknowledging (v26):** Jesus warns against being ashamed of Him and His words. In what situations or conversations do you find yourself tempted to be silent about your faith or compromise your Christian convictions? How can you grow in boldness to acknowledge Christ before others, knowing His glorious return is guaranteed?

# Luke 9:23-26 NIV

<sup>23</sup> Then he said to them all: “Whoever wants to be my disciple must deny themselves and take up their cross daily and follow me. <sup>24</sup> For whoever wants to save their life will lose it, but whoever loses their life for me will save it. <sup>25</sup> What good is it for someone to gain the whole world, and yet lose or forfeit their very self? <sup>26</sup> Whoever is ashamed of me and my words, the Son of Man will be ashamed of them when he comes in his glory and in the glory of the Father and of the holy angels.”





# Unconventional Invitation?



**Mount Kinabalu**

# Radical Discipleship



**Edmund Chan**

Radical Discipleship:  
Five Defining Questions

“Jesus was a radical. In fact, he was and remains, radically radical. It is therefore not at all surprising that His call to discipleship is a radical one. This radical idea of radical discipleship comes from the radical Messiah Himself.”



# What is Radical & Radical Discipleship?

- ‘Radical’ from Latin ‘radix’ meaning ‘root’.
- it is relating to or affecting the fundamental nature of something.
- At its core, radical refers to something that goes to the foundation or root of the matter.
- “Radical disciple” is one who is firmly rooted in the identity and mission of the Lord Jesus Christ (Mission: Walking in His Will- His Word, Works, and Ways).

# The Costly Call to Radical Discipleship

## **1 The Call to Cross-Bearing:**

**Daily Discipleship Demands**

Luke 9:23

## **2 The Consequence of Choice:**

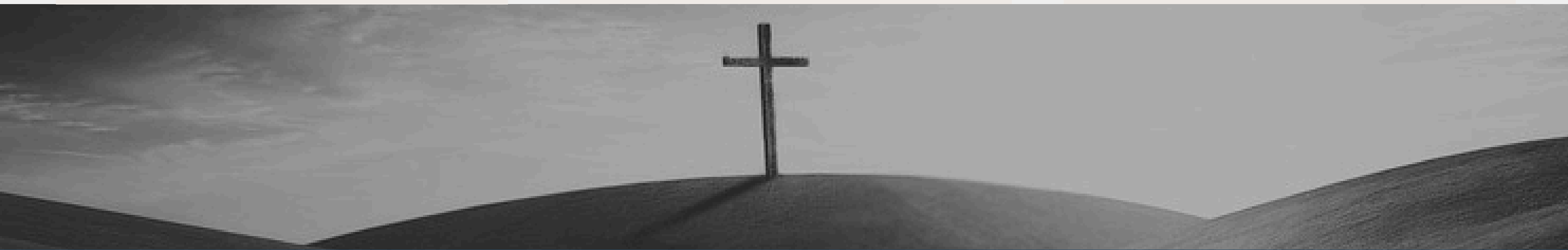
**Gaining or Losing Life**

Luke 9:24-25

## **3 The Coming of Christ:**

**Glory and Judgement Guaranteed**

Luke 9:26





# 1

## The Call to Cross-Bearing: Daily Discipleship Demands

Luke 9:23

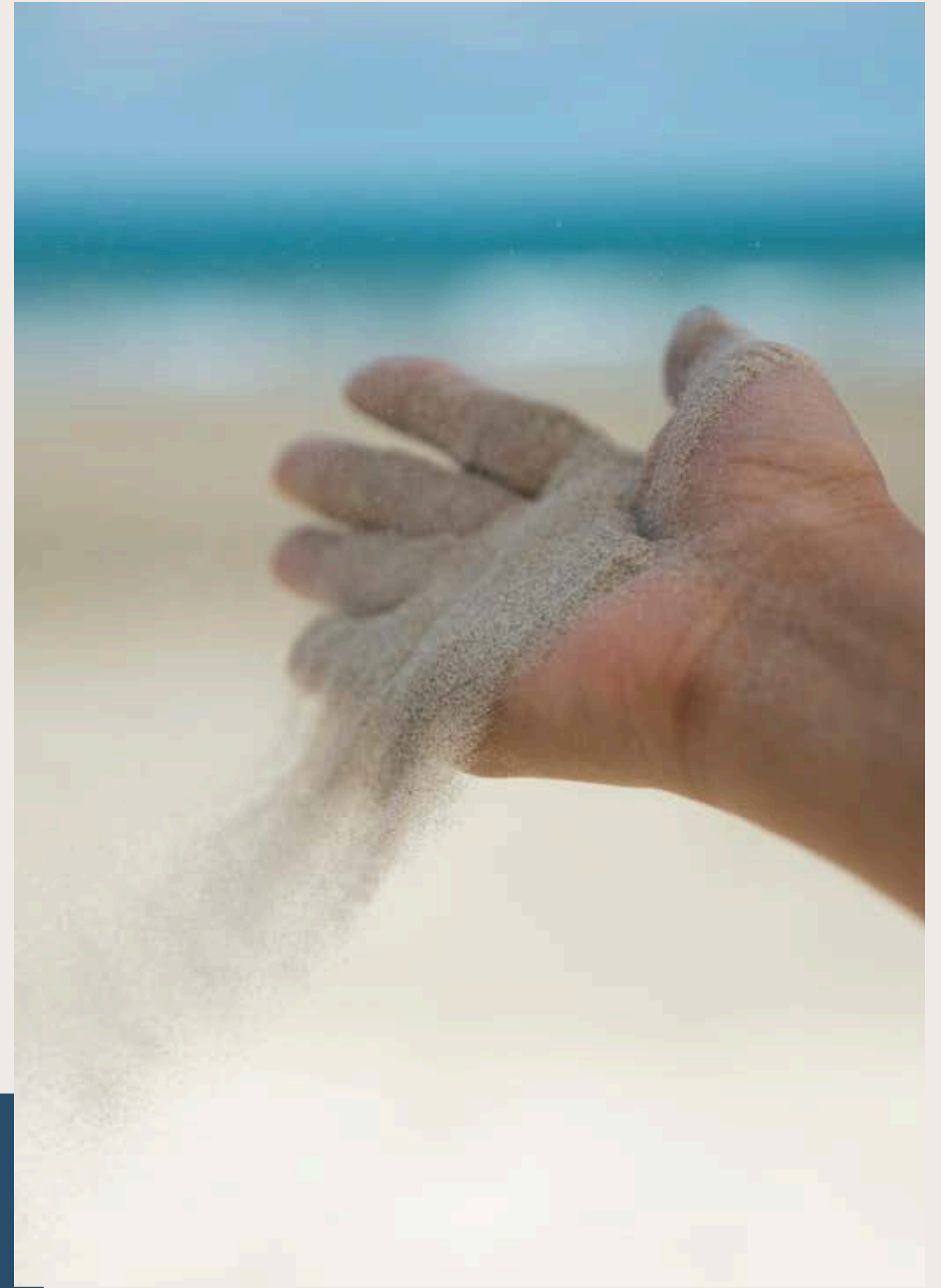
### A. "Deny Self": Abandoning Ambition and Autonomy

- To disregard one's interest for the Lord's interest.
- Surrender agenda, will, ambitions, autonomy.
- Dethrone self, enthrone the Saviour!
- Christ is Lord of all or He is not Lord at all!
- We deny Christ when we fail to deny ourselves.
- Key Word: **SURRENDER**

# How to Deny Self?

## **S-E-L-F**

- **S**urrendering: Yielding plans and desires to God's perfect will.
- **E**emptying: Releasing grip on possessions and personal control.
- **L**oving God: Prioritizing His glory/ commands above all else.
- **F**ollowing: Pursuing Christ's leadership in every decision.





# 1

## The Call to Cross-Bearing: Daily Discipleship Demands

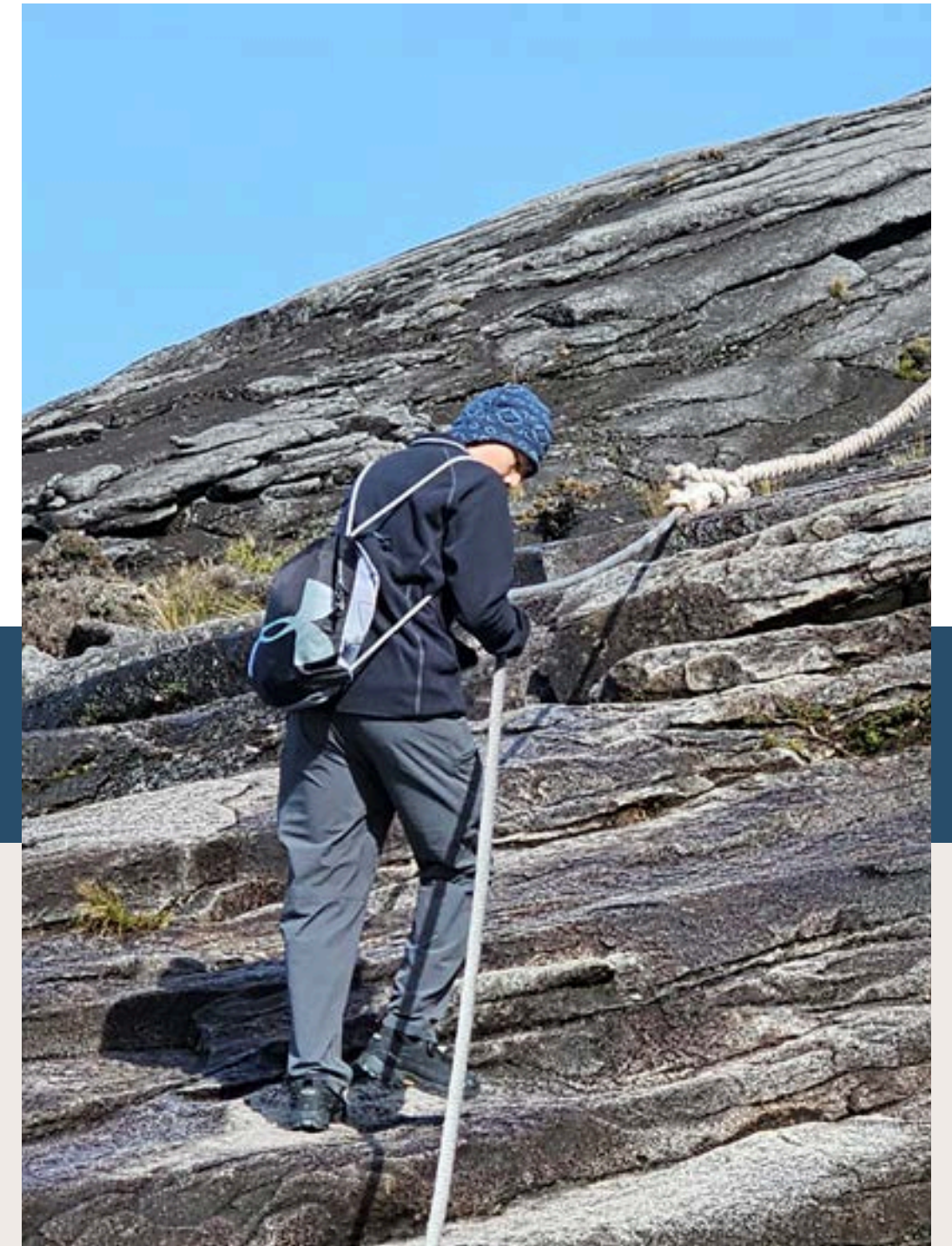
Luke 9:23

### B. "Take Up Cross Daily": Bear- hugging Burden and Battle

- Cross- instrument of death, shame, execution.
- To take up one's cross- walk in the way of the condemned, suffering, sacrifice.
- It means identifying with Jesus' mission.
- Walking in hardship, rejection, persecution if necessary.
- Standing for the truth, enduring trials and tribulation.
- Key Word: **SACRIFICE**



# Unconventional Invitation?





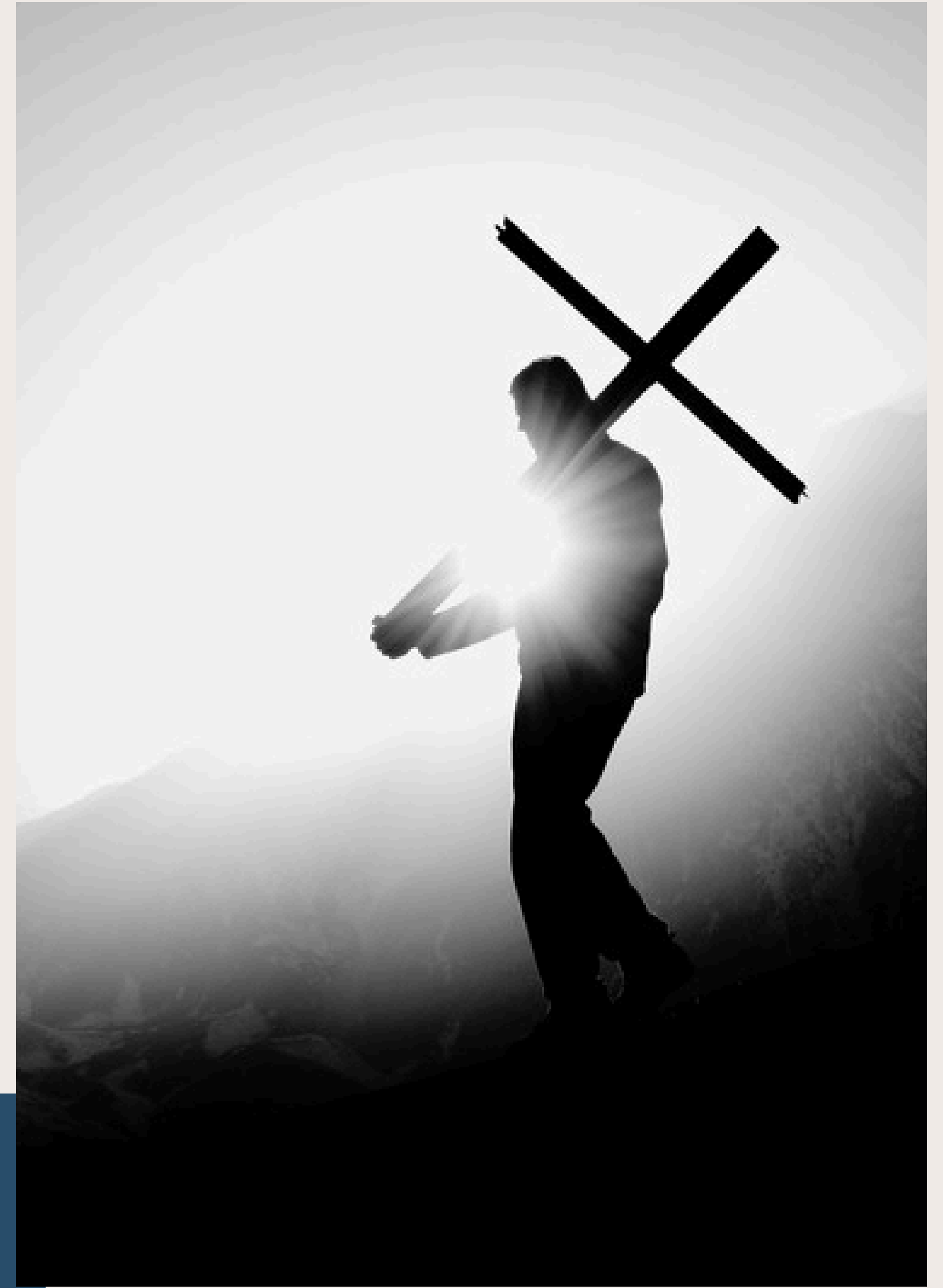
# Unconventional Invitation?



# How to Take Up the Cross Daily?

## C-R-O-S-S

- **C**ommitment: Unwavering dedication to Christ, regardless.
- **R**esponsibility: Bearing the burdens of ministry and service.
- **O**bedience: Following Christ's commands, even when difficult.
- **S**acrifice: Giving up personal comfort, time, or resources for His glory.
- **S**trength: Relying on God's power to carry burdens and endure trials.





# 1

## The Call to Cross-Bearing: Daily Discipleship Demands

Luke 9:23

### C. "Follow Me": Pursuing Proximity and Purpose

- It's a deliberate pursuit of Christ.
- To walk where He walked, live as He lived, obeyed as He obeyed.
- Constant alignment with His will and ways.
- John 10:27, "*My sheep listen to my voice; I know them, and they follow me.*"
- Key Word: **SUBMISSION**

# How to Follow Jesus?

## P-A-T-H

- **P**rayer: Constant communion and communication with Him.
- **A**doration: Worshipping Him in spirit and truth.
- **T**rust: Relying on His wisdom and sovereignty.
- **H**eeding: Diligently obeying His commands and teachings.





# 2

## The Consequence of Choice: Gaining or Losing Life

Luke 9:24-25

### A. Perilous Pursuit: Preserving the Present Life

- Self preservation of temporal, depraved life over the eternal, abundant life that Jesus offers
- Example: The rich fool in Luke 12:13-21
- World wisdom versus Heavenly wisdom

# 2

## The Consequence of Choice: Gaining or Losing Life

**Luke 9:24-25**

### **B. Profound & Permanent Profit: Losing for Christ's Sake**

- This is not about earning salvation, which is a gift of grace, but the nature of a transformed life.
- To lose one's life is to surrender one's ambitions, self-centred desires, comforts, even physical life for God's glory.
- It is an act of radical devotion and faith.

# 2

The

Consequence of

Choice:

Gaining or Losing

Life

Luke 9:24-25

## C. Grievous and Grave

### Grievance: Gaining the Globe

- To gain possessions, popularity and power only to lose one's soul and eternal destiny.
- What good is there if you stand before God with all of these but be bankrupt of soul?
- Would you choose eternal life or eternal death?



# 3

## The Coming of Christ:

## Glory and Judgment Guaranteed

Luke 9:26

### A. A Dire and Damning Disgrace:

#### Ashamed of Christ (26a)

- Deny, hide, compromise convictions for fear of rejection, ridicule, persecution.
- Desiring applause of men over approval from God.
- *“So everyone who acknowledges me before men, I also will acknowledge before my Father who is in heaven, but whoever denies me before men, I also will deny before my Father who is in heaven.”*

Mt. 10:32-33 ESV

# 3

The Coming of  
Christ:

Glory and  
Judgment

Guaranteed

Luke 9:26

## **B. A Divine and Dazzling Display: Coming in Glory (26b)**

- Christ will come in His glory as the triumphant King
- Matthew 24:30 (Message)
- Christ returns as the “KING OF KINGS AND LORD OF LORDS” (Revelation 19:16)
- Can you see it?



“Then, the Arrival of the Son of Man! It will fill the skies—no one will miss it. Unready people all over the world, outsiders to the splendor and power, will raise a huge lament as they watch the Son of Man blazing out of heaven. At that same moment, he’ll dispatch his angels with a trumpet-blast summons, pulling in God’s chosen from the four winds, from pole to pole.”

Matthew 24:30 (MESSAGE)

# Conclusion: The Ultimate Invitation

- Jesus doesn't want fans, He wants followers.
- Deny yourself. Take up your cross. Follow Him.
- Surrender, Sacrifice, Submit to the Saviour.
- Lose life so that you may gain Christ.
- Will you answer the costly call today?

