

# DISCUSSION GUIDE

*TAKE UP YOUR CROSS*  
Luke 9:23-25  
The Commands of Christ — Week 3

**ICEBREAKER:** What do you think most people think about the Bible?

**OVERVIEW:** Christians love the cross. Most of us wear cross jewelry and display cross decorations at home and at work. We love the cross because to us it represents Christ's death on the cross for our sins. But the cross doesn't only represent what Christ did for us, it represents what we are to do for Jesus. In this study we will go deeper with what it means to take up your cross.

1. What insight, principle, or observation from this weekend's message did you find to be the most helpful, eye-opening, or troubling? Explain. (Or what was your key takeaway from Sunday's message?)
2. Why is it important to study the commands of Christ?
3. Do you have a piece of cross jewelry or a cross decoration in your home? If so, what does it mean to you?
4. Is following Jesus easy or hard? Does it make your life easier or harder? Explain.
5. What do the following passages say about the cost of following Jesus?
  - a. Luke 9:57-62
  - b. Matthew 10:32-39

6. Read Luke 9:23-25 and refer to Sunday's sermon for the following questions.
  - a. Is this a command for believers or unbelievers? Explain.
  - b. What does this command reveal about what Christ thought about Himself?
  - c. What does it mean to deny yourself?
  - d. What does it mean to take up your cross?
  - e. What makes this a loving invitation?

**The Last Word:** "When the will of God crosses the will of man, somebody has to die."

