

The Path of the Savior

Agape Life Church March 21, 2021

For to this you were called, because Christ also suffered for us, leaving us an example, that you should follow His steps.

1 Peter 2:21

So when He had washed their feet, taken His garments, and sat down again, He said to them, "Do you know what I have done to you? You call me Teacher and Lord, and you say well, for so I am. If I then, your Lord and Teacher, have washed your feet, you also ought to wash one another's feet. For I have given you an example, that you should do as I have done to you." John 13:12-15

The Life Example of Christ

In chapters 13-17 of the Gospel of John, we have the summary of the major teachings of Christ to His disciples before He goes to the cross. This is called the upper room discourse, in these last words, Jesus pulls together in a last teaching session **the lessons He wants to underscore to His followers.**

The Servant Pathway

John 13:1-17 Jesus begins His teaching with an example to drive home the importance of **living as a servant.**

Being truly blessed and happy comes from choosing a life that follows Christ **in obedience to His example.** (John 13:17)

The sooner a Christian discovers that God's plan for them is to live for others, the sooner they discover who God truly has made them to be. (Philippians 2:1-5)

The Path of the Abiding Life

John 15:1-8. Our connection to our spiritual source is our lifeline. The greater the relationship the greater the results.

The Path of the Spirit-enabled Life

John 14:15-18 John 16:5-15

Jesus begins to reveal how things will work in His physical absence from the disciples.

Core Point: As the earthly ministry of Jesus comes to a close, He seeks to impart His life example into the life of the disciples. As we apply these lessons we find the power to live significant Christlike lives in Him.

What the Holy Spirit does for us. (John 16:13-15)

He guides us into all truth.

He speaks to us and tell us things to come.

He glorifies Jesus.

He communicates what is ours in Christ.

The Pathway of the Love of God

By this everyone will know that you are my disciples, if you love one another." John 13:35

The distinguishing trademark of our discipleship is love.

Jesus taught us that the Father Himself loves us! (John 17: 20-23)

Jesus is about to give His own the ultimate lesson of sacrificial love.

The Pathway of the Cross

We are invited to participate in the body of Christ in many functions together; but the decision to walk the walk of a crucified life, is one **we must face and choose alone.**

The greatest mistake is ignoring and avoiding the cross. Many search for triumphant living but refuse to live a crucified life.

The cross is the mark of the disciple and the means of discipleship.

Then he said to them all: "Whoever wants to be my disciple must deny themselves and take up their cross daily and follow me." Luke 9:23

To take up our cross and follow him means we focus on the importance of renouncing self as the center of our life and actions.

The power of the cross is a **deliverance from you.**

It cost us nothing for our salvation, but it costs everything for our discipleship. **Jesus never hid the cost He was requiring to be His disciple.**

The longest journey we face is the pathway of a crucified life. As followers of Christ we follow in His footsteps. **The process of the cross is pivotal for us in our journey together with Him.**

I have been crucified with Christ; it is no longer I who live, but Christ lives in me; and the life which I now live in the flesh I live by faith in the Son of God, who loved me and gave Himself for me. Galatians 2:20

This is the pathway our Savior has asked us to accept, and daily choose in our walk with Him.

Core Statement: I choose to walk the pathway of the Savior. I will choose a life of service, abiding in Him and enabled by His Spirit. I will let love be my motive and take up my cross and follow the Savior in my life as a Christian.