

## Discussion Questions

### September 12, 2018

This past Sunday we looked at Jesus' call to follow him. We looked at his specific call of 4 disciples and the cost of following him. Tonight, we are going to examine another Scripture where Jesus explains what it will take to follow him.

Mark 8:34-37

And calling the crowd to him with his disciples, he said to them, If anyone would come after me, let him deny himself and take up his cross and follow me. 35 For whoever would save his life will lose it, but whoever loses his life for my sake and the gospel's will save it. 36 For what does it profit a man to gain the whole world and forfeit his soul? 37 For what can a man give in return for his soul?

What is your most valued possession?

Jesus gives 2 qualifications for those who want to follow him. They must deny themselves, and take up their cross. What do you think it means to deny oneself?

In light of the context, what do you think Jesus meant when he said each person must "take up his cross"?

Another distinction is that we are called to take up our cross, not take up his cross. What do you see as the difference between those two things?

The phrase "follow me" means to keep following Jesus on a daily basis. What are some ways we can follow him daily?

What do we gain by denying ourselves and following him? Do you find it easy or challenging to sacrifice now for an eternal reward?

Application – To be done on your own during the week  
Spend intentional time in prayer asking God to reveal to you where you can follow him better, and listening for His response.