

I'VE GOT GOOD NEWS AND ~~BAD~~ GOOD NEWS

Luke 9.18-26

Jesus gathers the disciples around and gives them some good news.

*"But what about you?" he asked. "Who do you say I am?"
Peter answered, "God's Messiah." v 20*

Then Jesus delivers some bad news.

And he said, "The Son of Man must suffer many things and be rejected by the elders, the chief priests and the teachers of the law, and he must be killed and on the third day be raised to life." v 22

And then more bad news...

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

THREE CHARACTERISTICS OF A DISCIPLE OF JESUS:

1. The **SURRENDER** of **SELF** to Jesus
2. The daily **CHOICE** to do so. (i.e. it's not a one-time deal)
3. Adopting the **WAYS, TEACHING,** and **CHARACTER** of Jesus.

...which really turns out to be good news because Jesus reminds us of

THREE TRUTHS ABOUT LIFE: (Luke 9.24-26)

1. Self-centeredness is ultimately **UNFULFILLING.**

For whoever wants to save their life will lose it, but whoever loses their life for me will save it... v 24

*There is a way that appears to be right, but in the end it leads to death.
Proverbs 14.12*

2. If God is not at the center of your life, achieving the greatest accomplishments **WILL NOT BRING SATISFACTION.**

What good is it for someone to gain the whole world, and yet lose or forfeit their very self? v 25

He has also set eternity in the human heart... Ecclesiastes 3.11

3. There will be a **JUDGMENT DAY.**

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. v 26

Do not be deceived: God cannot be mocked. A man reaps what he sows. Whoever sows to please their flesh, from the flesh will reap destruction; whoever sows to please the Spirit, from the Spirit will reap eternal life.

Galatians 6.7-8

Luke is asking us two questions about Jesus today:

1. Who do you say Jesus is?
2. Will it be worth it to maintain the status quo and NOT become a disciple of Jesus?

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What is God saying to me?

What am I going to do about it?