

## Deny Self

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Matthew 16:24

1. Come after Me
2. Deny himself
3. Take up his cross
4. Follow me

Romans 12:1-2

1. Present your bodies
2. Be not conformed
3. Be transformed
4. Renewing our minds

Mat 16:24 Then said Jesus unto his disciples, If any *man* will come after me, let him deny himself, and take up his cross, and follow me.

Mar 8:34 And when he had called the people *unto him* with his disciples also, he said unto them, Whosoever will come after me, let him deny himself, and take up his cross, and follow me.

Luk 9:23 And he said to *them* all, If any *man* will come after me, let him deny himself, and take up his cross daily, and follow me.

**“Come after me”** - use our free will and right to choose. Make the decision for Jesus avoiding the default of Adam's sin nature with which we were born.

**“Deny himself”** - all self righteousness and our dead, empty works and “good deeds.”

**“Take up his cross”** – rely on Jesus' finished work of the cross. The law was nailed, immobilized on the cross [Col 2:14]. Accept the redemption from the curse of the law and live in grace and faith righteousness. [Gal 3:13]

**“Follow Me”** - as a new creature, walk in Jesus' light for our life and His works through us.

The principles of the Christian life are:

First. To have a sincere desire to belong to Christ - *If any man will come after me* - it being usual for the master to go before, and the disciple to come after him in a resolution in the strength of grace, to be a disciple of Christ, .

Secondly. To renounce self-dependence, and selfish pursuits -*let him deny himself* - sinful self, (Eph 4:22 put off ...), - which were as a part of himself: righteous self, and renounce all his own works of righteousness, in the business of justification and salvation; the pleasures and profits of this world, when in competition with Christ; all his notions and expectations of an earthly kingdom, and worldly grandeur.

Thirdly. To embrace the condition in which Christ suffered for our sake. - *let him take up his cross* – (Eph 4:23 put on ...), with in walking the Christian road with his cross identifying with Jesus and His shame of guilt. (Mat 10:38 ... worthy of Him). We are not to deny Christ who endured and gave all to us while we were yet sinners. The temporary treasures of this world cannot compare to those in the eternal life. They must be abandoned and crucified on the cross.

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Fourthly. To imitate Jesus, and do all things in His spirit – *let him follow Me* -. in the exercise of grace, faith righteousness, as humility, zeal, patience, and self-denial;

As the rich, young ruler in Matt 19, Mark 10, Luke 18

1. came (curious) to Jesus
2. must abandon (temporary) wealth and fame
3. seek (eternal) treasure in heaven
4. follow after Me (one who loves him)

Mat 10:38 And whoever does not take his cross and follow me is not worthy of me.

Luke 14:27 Whoever does not bear his own cross and come after me cannot be my disciple.

2Ti 2:12 If we suffer, we shall also reign with *him*: if we deny *him*, he also will deny us:

2Ti 2:13 If we believe not, *yet* he abideth faithful: he cannot deny himself.

Mat 10:33 But whosoever shall deny me before men, him will I also deny before my Father which is in heaven.

Tit 1:16 They profess that they know God; but in works they deny *him*, being abominable, and disobedient, and unto every good work reprobate.

Rom 12:1 I beseech you therefore, brethren, by the mercies of God, that ye present your bodies a living sacrifice, holy, acceptable unto God, *which* is your reasonable service.

Rom 12:2 And be not conformed to this world: but be ye transformed by the renewing of your mind, that ye may prove what *is* that good, and acceptable, and perfect, will of God.

Eph 4:22 -24 That ye put off concerning the former conversation the old man, which is corrupt according to the deceitful lusts;

23 And be renewed in the spirit of your mind;

24 And that ye put on the new man, which after God is created in righteousness and true holiness.

Eph 5:2 And walk in love, as Christ also hath loved us, and hath given himself for us an offering and a sacrifice to God for a sweet smelling savour.

Php 2:17 Yea, and if I be offered upon the sacrifice and service of your faith, I joy, and rejoice with you all.

Php 4:18 But I have all, and abound: I am full, having received of Epaphroditus the things *which were sent* from you, an odour of a sweet smell, a sacrifice acceptable, well pleasing to God.