

# MARK

## “THE TRUE COST OF DISCIPLESHIP”

MARK 8:31-9:1

Eric M. Hine     Millersville Bible Church     Sept. 13, 2026

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.”

Mark 8:34

### THREE DISCOVERY QUESTIONS WE SHOULD REGULARLY ASK OURSELVES:

1. Could I actually be \_\_\_\_\_ Satan’s \_\_\_\_\_?
2. Have I prioritized human \_\_\_\_\_ over God’s \_\_\_\_\_?
3. Do I \_\_\_\_\_ when God \_\_\_\_\_ something of me in His Word?

### THE CALL TO TRUE DISCIPLESHIP: THREE NON-NEGOTIABLES AND FOUR INCENTIVES TO CAREFULLY CONSIDER

#### THREE NON-NEGOTIABLES (Mark 8:34):

1. \_\_\_\_\_ yourself.

We do this by...

- ◆ \_\_\_\_\_ Him more than anything else (Matthew 22:37).

- ◆ Completely \_\_\_\_\_ our own \_\_\_\_\_ and desires in order to have Christ’s (2 Corinthians 10:5; John 12:24-25).

2. Take up your \_\_\_\_\_.

3. \_\_\_\_\_ Jesus.

#### FOUR INCENTIVES (The four “fors”):

1. \_\_\_\_\_ your life by \_\_\_\_\_ it (v. 35).
2. \_\_\_\_\_ what is of real \_\_\_\_\_ (v. 36).
3. No \_\_\_\_\_ is \_\_\_\_\_ (v. 37).
4. \_\_\_\_\_ is \_\_\_\_\_ (v. 38).

#### REFLECTION QUESTIONS & EXHORTATIONS:

- ◆ Are you truly a Christ follower? If you say, “Yes,” what would you put forth as evidence to demonstrate this to be true? If you say, “No,” will you commit to speaking to someone about this today?
- ◆ Do you see Jesus’ requirements as too difficult? What, then, is the solution to this problem?
- ◆ Ask someone who knows you well to express what they believe to be the top priorities in your life.
- ◆ Remember: The voices you listen to will determine your destiny.

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### THREE DISCOVERY QUESTIONS WE SHOULD REGULARLY ASK OURSELVES:

1. Could I actually be promoting Satan’s agenda?
2. Have I prioritized human concerns over God’s concerns?
3. Do I obey when God requires something of me in His Word?

### THE CALL TO TRUE DISCIPLESHIP: THREE NON-NEGOTIABLES AND FOUR INCENTIVES TO CAREFULLY CONSIDER

#### THREE NON-NEGOTIABLES (Mark 8:34):

1. Deny yourself.

We do this by...

- ♦ Loving Him more than anything else (Matthew 22:37).

- ♦ Completely disowning our own thoughts and desires in order to have Christ’s (2 Cor. 10:5; John 12:24-25).

2. Take up your cross.

3. Follow Jesus.

#### FOUR INCENTIVES (The four “fors”):

1. Save your life by losing it (v. 35).
2. Know what is of real value (v. 36).
3. No exchange is possible (v. 37).
4. Judgment is coming (v. 38).

#### REFLECTION QUESTIONS & EXHORTATIONS:

- ♦ Are you truly a Christ follower? If you say, “Yes,” what would you put forth as evidence to demonstrate this to be true? If you say, “No,” will you commit to speaking to someone about this today?
- ♦ Do you see Jesus’ requirements as too difficult? What, then, is the solution to this problem?
- ♦ Ask someone who knows you well to express what they believe to be the top priorities in your life.
- ♦ Remember: The voices you listen to will determine your destiny.