

ENGAGE THE WORLD

— Like Jesus —



Genesis 3:8

Then the man and his wife heard the sound of the LORD God walking in the garden at the time of the evening breeze, and they hid from the LORD God among the trees of the garden.

2 Timothy 1:7

For God has not given us a spirit of fear, but one of power, love, and sound judgment.

Luke 9:21-22

Jesus strictly warned and instructed them to tell this to no one, ²² saying, “It is necessary that the Son of Man suffer many things and be rejected by the elders, chief priests, and scribes, be killed, and be raised the third day.”

Luke 9:43-44

While everyone was amazed at all the things Jesus was doing, He told His disciples, ⁴⁴ “Let these words sink in: The Son of Man is about to be betrayed into the hands of men.”

Luke 9:51

When the days were coming to a close for Him to be taken up, He determined to journey to Jerusalem.

Luke 20:15-19

“What then will the owner of the vineyard do to them? ¹⁶ He will come and kill those farmers and give the vineyard to others.”

But when they heard this they said, “That must never happen!”

¹⁷ But Jesus looked at them and said, “Then what is the meaning of this Scripture:

The stone that the builders rejected has become the cornerstone?...

18 Everyone who falls on that stone will be broken to pieces, but on whomever it falls, it will shatter him.”

19 Then the scribes and the chief priests looked for a way to get their hands on him that very hour, because they knew he had told this parable against them, but they feared the people.

Luke 9:57-62

As they were traveling on the road someone said to him, “I will follow you wherever you go.”

⁵⁸ Jesus told him, “Foxes have dens, and birds of the sky have nests, but the Son of Man has no place to lay his head.”

⁵⁹ Then he said to another, “Follow me.”

“Lord,” he said, “first let me go bury my father.”

⁶⁰ But he told him, “Let the dead bury their own dead, but you go and spread the news of the kingdom of God.”...

61 Another said, “I will follow you, Lord, but first let me go and say good-bye to those at my house.”

62 But Jesus said to him, “No one who puts his hand to the plow and looks back is fit for the kingdom of God.”

Luke 9:23-25

Then Jesus said to them all, “If anyone wants to follow after me, let him deny himself, take up his cross daily, and follow me. ²⁴ For whoever wants to save his life will lose it, but whoever loses his life because of me will save it. ²⁵ For what does it benefit someone if he gains the whole world, and yet loses or forfeits himself?

This is not because Jesus is a masochist who embraces suffering, but because he is unreservedly committed to the purpose of God—a purpose that resists, and is resisted by, the habits and patterns and powers of the larger world. As the Son of Man fulfills God’s design, he will encounter hostility and experience great suffering; can those who follow him along the path of God’s purpose expect less?...

Jesus' message to his disciples portends a lifetime of discipleship as cross-bearing, not for the sake of suffering but because this is how God's salvation will permeate the world.

Joel Green

Luke 14:23-24

“Then the master told the servant, ‘Go out into the highways and hedges and make them come in, so that my house may be filled. ²⁴ For I tell you, not one of those people who were invited will enjoy my banquet.’ ”

Luke 14:25-27

Now great crowds were traveling with him. So he turned and said to them, ²⁶ “If anyone comes to me and does not hate his own father and mother, wife and children, brothers and sisters—yes, and even his own life—he cannot be my disciple. ²⁷ Whoever does not bear his own cross and come after me cannot be my disciple.

When we are faced with the choice between Jesus and the people to whom we are most closely related, Jesus must always be our priority. Jesus is to be loved more than all others.

Luke 22:54, 56-61

They seized him, led him away, and brought him into the high priest's house. Meanwhile Peter was following at a distance... ⁵⁶ When a servant saw him sitting in the light, and looked closely at him, she said, "This man was with him too."

⁵⁷ But he denied it: "Woman, I don't know him."

⁵⁸ After a little while, someone else saw him and said, "You're one of them too."

"Man, I am not!" Peter said...

⁵⁹ About an hour later, another kept insisting, “This man was certainly with him, since he’s also a Galilean.”

⁶⁰ But Peter said, “Man, I don’t know what you’re talking about!” Immediately, while he was still speaking, a rooster crowed. ⁶¹ Then the Lord turned and looked at Peter. So Peter remembered the word of the Lord, how he had said to him, “Before the rooster crows today, you will deny me three times.”

John 15:20

‘A servant is not greater than his master.’ If they persecuted me, they will also persecute you.

Acts 2:14

Peter stood up with the Eleven, raised his voice, and proclaimed to them, “Fellow Jews and all you residents of Jerusalem, let this be known to you, and pay attention to my words.

Acts 2:22-23, 36

“Fellow Israelites, listen to these words: This Jesus of Nazareth was a man attested to you by God with miracles, wonders, and signs that God did among you through him, just as you yourselves know. ²³ Though he was delivered up according to God’s determined plan and foreknowledge, you used lawless people to nail him to a cross and kill him...

³⁶ “Therefore, let all the house of Israel know with certainty that God has made this Jesus, whom you crucified, both Lord and Messiah.”

John 14:15-17

“If you love me, you will keep my commands. ¹⁶ And I will ask the Father, and he will give you another Counselor to be with you forever. ¹⁷ He is the Spirit of truth. The world is unable to receive him because it doesn’t see him or know him. But you do know him, because he remains with you and will be in you.”

Philippians 1:27-30

As citizens of heaven, live your life worthy of the gospel of Christ. Then, whether I come and see you or am absent, I will hear about you that you are standing firm in one spirit, in one accord, contending together for the faith of the gospel, ²⁸ not being frightened in any way by your opponents. This is a sign of destruction for them, but of your salvation—and this is from God...

29 For it has been granted to you on Christ's behalf not only to believe in him, but also to suffer for him, 30 since you are engaged in the same struggle that you saw I had and now hear that I have.

Hebrews 11:32-38

And what more can I say? Time is too short for me to tell about Gideon, Barak, Samson, Jephthah, David, Samuel, and the prophets, ³³ who by faith conquered kingdoms, administered justice, obtained promises, shut the mouths of lions, ³⁴ quenched the raging of fire, escaped the edge of the sword, gained strength in weakness, became mighty in battle, and put foreign armies to flight...

³⁵ Women received their dead, raised to life again. Other people were tortured, not accepting release, so that they might gain a better resurrection. ³⁶ Others experienced mockings and scourgings, as well as bonds and imprisonment. ³⁷ They were stoned, they were sawed in two, they died by the sword, they wandered about in sheepskins, in goatskins, destitute, afflicted, and mistreated. ³⁸ The world was not worthy of them. They wandered in deserts and on mountains, hiding in caves and holes in the ground.

Hebrews 11:39-40

All these were approved through their faith, but they did not receive what was promised, ⁴⁰ since God had provided something better for us, so that they would not be made perfect without us.