

Losing Everything for Christ

In today’s reading, Paul says that everything he once thought was important, he now considers a loss compared to the joy of knowing Jesus. All the things that used to define him (his achievements, his reputation, his comfort) didn’t hold the same weight anymore. Why? Because knowing Jesus changed everything.

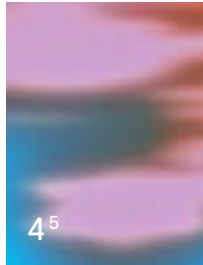
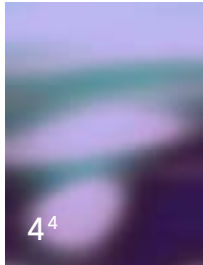
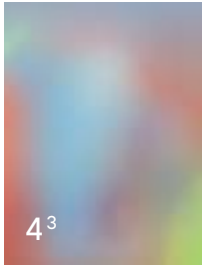
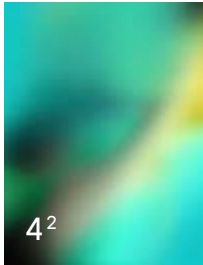
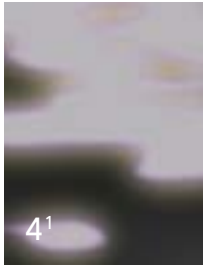
Paul’s words gently invite us to reflect: Are there things in my life that quietly pull my heart away from Jesus? We all have them. But this passage isn’t about guilt, it’s about perspective. It’s a reminder that the more we come to know Jesus, the more we realize just how worthy He is. He’s not asking us to give things up to be cruel; He’s inviting us into something better: into deeper joy, deeper freedom, and a love that lasts.

Read *Philippians 3:7-11*

What does it look like to truly value Christ above all worldly things?

Why is knowing Jesus more valuable than anything else?

⁷ But whatever gain I had, I counted as loss for the sake of Christ. ⁸ Indeed, I count everything as loss because of the surpassing worth of knowing Christ Jesus my Lord. For his sake I have suffered the loss of all things and count them as rubbish, in order that I may gain Christ ⁹ and be found in him, not having a righteousness of my own that comes from the law, but that which comes through faith in Christ, the righteousness from God that depends on faith— ¹⁰ that I may know him and the power of his resurrection, and may share his sufferings, becoming like him in his death, ¹¹ that by any means possible I may attain the resurrection from the dead.



Week 4

Living as a Disciple

Putting Off the Old Self

Salvation isn’t just about checking a box or believing the right things; it’s about becoming a whole new person. In Today’s reading, Paul reminds us that if we’re in Christ, we’ve been raised to new life, and that means letting go of our old habits, mindsets, and ways of living. It’s not always easy (sometimes we slip back into old patterns), but the invitation is to keep setting our hearts and minds on things above. Today, let’s take a moment to think about the ways Jesus is reshaping who we are.

Read Colossians 3:1-10

What old habits, attitudes, or mindsets do I need to leave behind?

How does God empower us to live as a new creation?

Put On the New Self

¹ If then you have been raised with Christ, seek the things that are above, where Christ is, seated at the right hand of God. ² Set your minds on things that are above, not on things that are on earth. ³ For you have died, and your life is hidden with Christ in God. ⁴ When Christ who is your life appears, then you also will appear with him in glory.

⁵ Put to death therefore what is earthly in you: sexual immorality, impurity, passion, evil desire, and covetousness, which is idolatry. ⁶ On account of these the wrath of God is coming. ⁷ In these you too once walked, when you were living in them. ⁸ But now you must put them all away: anger, wrath, malice, slander, and obscene talk from your mouth. ⁹ Do not lie to one another, seeing that you have put off the old self with its practices ¹⁰ and have put on the new self, which is being renewed in knowledge after the image of its creator.

A Living Sacrifice

Worship isn’t just something we do on Sundays or when a song moves us; it’s how we live. In Today’s reading, Paul urges us to offer our whole selves to God. Not just our voices but our decisions, our time, our priorities, and our everyday lives. That’s what true worship looks like: living in a way that says, “God, I’m Yours.” It means choosing to let Him shape the way we think, instead of just going along with what the world says is normal.

Read Romans 12:1-2

In what ways do I need to renew my mind to align more with Christ?

Why does God desire our whole lives as worship?

A Living Sacrifice

¹ I appeal to you, therefore, brothers, by the mercies of God, to present your bodies as a living sacrifice, holy and acceptable to God, which is your spiritual worship. ² Do not be conformed to this world, but be transformed by the renewal of your mind, so that by testing, you may discern what the will of God is, what is good and acceptable and perfect.

Serving One Master

In today’s reading, Jesus reminds us that our hearts weren’t made to be pulled in two directions. He says we can’t serve two masters, because eventually, one will take priority. Whether it’s money, approval, success, or comfort, these things can slowly start to compete for our attention and affection.

But Jesus doesn’t say this to shame us. He says it because He knows what our hearts truly need. He invites us to trust Him fully. Not because He wants control, but because He wants us. Our loyalty, our devotion, our trust. They’re safest and most whole when placed in Him. Today is a gentle invitation to pause and ask: Is there anything quietly taking first place in my heart? Jesus is always ready to meet us there (with grace, not guilt) and lead us back to Himself.

Read Matthew 6:24

Is there anything quietly taking first place in my heart?

Why does Jesus want our undivided loyalty?

²⁵ No one can serve two masters, for either he will hate the one and love the other, or he will be devoted to the one and despise the other. You cannot serve God and money.

Serving Others Like Jesus

The One who had every right to be served, the King of Kings, chose instead to serve. He didn't lead with power or pride. He led with love. Whether He was healing the sick, feeding the hungry, or welcoming those the world had pushed away, Jesus spent His life lifting others up.

His example gently shifts how we think about greatness. It's not about status or being the most impressive. In the kingdom of God, greatness looks like humility, kindness, and quiet faithfulness. It looks like loving people well, even when no one's watching.

Read Mark 10:45

How can you serve others with the heart of Jesus?

What does Jesus' example teach us about true greatness?

³⁷ For even the Son of Man did not come to be served, but to serve, and to give his life as a ransom for many

Uncommon People

When you picture someone God might use to change the world, do you think of yourself? Most of us don't. We disqualify ourselves before we even begin: not smart enough, not holy enough, not outgoing enough. But throughout Scripture, and all of history, God has always worked through uncommon people. Not the powerful, not the polished, not the perfect. But the available.

God's Kingdom is not built by celebrities. It's built by the faithful. The ones who quietly serve, who love deeply, who show up again and again even when it's hard. You might feel ordinary, but in God's hands, ordinary becomes sacred.

Maybe that's the invitation for you today, not to become someone else, but to believe that who you are is exactly who God can use. If you've ever felt overlooked, unqualified, or too broken, hear this: you are seen, called, and included. Not because you've earned it, but because He delights in using uncommon people to do eternal things.

This story is not about superstars. It's about surrendered hearts. Let Him write something beautiful through yours.

Read 1 Corinthians 1:26-29

Where have you believed the lie that God can't use someone like you? What might change if you started believing that He already is?

What does it say about God's character that He chooses the unlikely to carry out His Kingdom work?

²⁶ For consider your calling, brothers: not many of you were wise according to worldly standards, not many were powerful, not many were of noble birth. ²⁷ But God chose what is foolish in the world to shame the wise; God chose what is weak in the world to shame the strong; ²⁸ God chose what is low and despised in the world, even things that are not, to bring to nothing things that are, ²⁹ so that no human being might boast in the presence of God.



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