

Mark 8:27-38 | Galatians 2:20

Setting the Scene:

The only question that counts: Do you know who I am?

The Right Answer, Wrong Assumptions

So what does "taking up our cross" mean?

- It's simply a picture of self-denial.
- It's a daily decision, not a one time prayer.
- It's trusting His way and His leadership.

My response: In light of what I have learned today, what do I need to do to obey God?

Life Group Questions

Throughout history people have questioned who Jesus is and the role he plays in the lives of those who follow Him. Looking at how Jesus described himself can help us know Him more personally and build our confidence in helping others understand who He is.

Who does Jesus say He is in the following verses?

| | |
|-----------------|--------------|
| Matthew 11:29 – | John 10:11 – |
| Luke 22:27 – | John 14:6 – |
| John 6:35 – | John 15:5 – |
| John 8:12 – | |

Which of these verses catch your attention the most and why?

Understanding that Jesus is God (i.e. his Deity) and not just "another man" is foundational to our faith. The Apostle Paul came to the conclusion that Jesus is who he claimed to be and was killed because he believed it to be true. Paul writes a clear description of Jesus to counteract false teachings in his letter, Colossians.

Read Colossians 1:15-20. What key points do you see Paul making? What do you find most encouraging or helpful in this passage?

Submission is a key element of understanding and putting "self-denial" into action. It's one of those terms that is often misunderstood and misinterpreted. How do the following verses help us better understand what submission is and isn't?

Matthew 26:39, 42 | Ephesians 5:21 | Philippians 2:1-4

We often know the right answer about who Jesus but often have the wrong assumptions about what He expects from us and what He will do in our lives. Read the stories from the Scripture passages below of the rich young ruler and Peter. What assumptions were made by them and how did Jesus respond?

Matthew 19:16-30 | John 21:15-23