

## Luke 9:23-27

### You won the lottery! But, do you want to collect?

#### Introduction

- A. Imagine you won the lottery!
- B. Context. The disciples have finally figured out that Jesus is the Messiah. (vs. 18-20)
- C. But then He upturns everything they imagined (vs. 21-22)
- D. To follow Jesus requires a willingness to suffer shame and self-sacrifice to the point of death.

#### We are called to follow Jesus by giving our lives away to him, to face rejection and possibly even death (v. 23)

- A. **Deny himself** – You are not the owner of your life, Jesus is. First and foremost, you live for Him and His Kingdom.
- B. **Take up his cross daily** – Rejection, persecution, even martyrdom, a daily choice.
- C. **Follow me** –
  - 1. You choose to become learners and listeners of Jesus and His Spirit.
  - 2. We must be ready to experience what Jesus experienced.

#### It has to be this way (vs. 24-26)

- A. There is only one way to hold on to your life – by giving it away to Jesus (v. 24).
- B. There is only one way to gain what is worth having – if it is given to you by Jesus (v. 25).
- C. There is only one side to be on – that of Jesus (v. 26).

#### Application

- A. Are you afraid of this call?
- B. What this does not mean
- C. It sounds like a bad deal, but Jesus knows the true path to life, and offers us what we can't get on our own.
  - 1. Rest – Matt 11:28-29.
  - 2. Much more – Luke 18:18-30.
- D. This is the way back to how life was originally meant to be lived – under God's leadership (v. 27)