

# Deny Your Dark Side Notes

Luke 9:23a

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**Main Point:** Salvation is free, but discipleship will cost you your life.

## The danger of following your heart.

1. Genesis 6:5
2. Ecclesiastes 9:3
3. Jeremiah 17:9
4. Mark 7:20-23

Don't follow your heart; \_\_\_\_\_ your heart!

## One call to all.

1. In verses 10-17, Jesus withdrew with His disciples, but the crowds \_\_\_\_\_ Him.
  - The disciples asked Jesus to \_\_\_\_\_ the crowd away so they could find lodging and food.
  - Jesus fed five \_\_\_\_\_ men with a bit of bread and a couple of fish.
2. In verses 18-20, Jesus asked, "\_\_\_\_\_ do you say I Am?" and Peter declared, "The Christ of God."
3. All indicated the "\_\_\_\_\_", meaning it's intended for the curious crowd and the committed core (Mark 8:34).

## Conditions

1. The call to faith is open to \_\_\_\_\_, but there are conditions to following Christ.
2. We see this in the use of the word, "\_\_\_\_\_."
  - The word "if" reminds us of our \_\_\_\_\_ to respond and not be passive (Mark 4:23, John 7:37, John 8:31, John 14:15).
  - "If" means we have a \_\_\_\_\_ in the matter of whether or not we'll make our discipleship matter.
3. Desire – A person must desire to be a \_\_\_\_\_.
  - In order to walk with Jesus, first you must \_\_\_\_\_ to walk with Jesus.
  - Discipleship is not just for the super-committed. It is for \_\_\_\_\_.
  - The phrase "come after me" has the idea of movement, of lining up \_\_\_\_\_ the Lord, following wherever He goes.
    - We don't walk in front of Him and ask Him to catch up with our ways and \_\_\_\_\_.

#### 4. Denial

- The phrase, “let him” puts the responsibility on \_\_\_\_\_ of us.
- This must be \_\_\_\_\_ because it’s not automatic.
- Meaning
  - To “deny” implies a “\_\_\_\_\_ refusal.”
  - Denial means “to disown and \_\_\_\_\_ self and to subjugate all works, interests and enjoyments.
  - “Self-denial is turning away from the idolatry of self-\_\_\_\_\_ and every attempt to orient one’s life by the dictates of self-interest.”
  - Jesus was blunt in Luke 14:33.
- We are to deny ourselves right now, without \_\_\_\_\_.
- We are called to make a radical decision to renounce our own righteousness and refuse to see self as \_\_\_\_\_ (Titus 2:11-12).
- Denying self is not the same thing as self-\_\_\_\_\_.
  - To deny self is turning from sin and selfishness and turning to the \_\_\_\_\_.
  - Denying self means I stop thinking I’m always right, I stop living in my own power, and I refuse to pursue my own pleasures because I no longer belong to \_\_\_\_\_ (1 Corinthians 6:19-20).
- The word “deny” is the polar opposite of “\_\_\_\_\_.”
  - If we don’t deny self, we’ll end up \_\_\_\_\_ the Savior.
  - We must \_\_\_\_\_ Christ, and deny self, or we’ll confess self, and deny Christ.
  - You will either live for self, or you’ll live for the Savior.
  - We can’t fully follow Christ while living our lives any way we please.

#### Action steps

1. What have you learned about intentional discipleship?
2. Is there someone you will share this with?
3. Have you denied yourself and surrendered to the Savior?