



OUR CROSS

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**every
one** on
Mission,
developing
generations of
**world
changers**

Matthew 10:37-39

Anyone who loves their father or mother more than me is not worthy of me; anyone who loves their son or daughter more than me is not worthy of me. Whoever does not take up their cross and follow me is not worthy of me. Whoever finds their life will lose it, and whoever loses their life for my sake will find it.

Jesus demands a loyalty that takes priority over the natural ties of life.

There is some suffering involved with following Christ.

Whoever does not take up their cross and follow me is not worthy of me. Matthew 10:38

Jesus is still offensive to some people.

...In this world you will have trouble... John 16:33

The real truth is that following Jesus is tough.

As the Father has sent me, I am sending you. John 20:21

- Sent = Missional

Our God is a Missionary God.

The Word became flesh and blood, and moved into the neighborhood... John 1:14 (MSG)

Our path is to live on mission.

Everyone on mission, developing generations of world changers.

Whoever finds their life will lose it, and whoever loses their life for my sake will find it. Matthew 10:39

The world will be changed through humility, service and sacrifice.



Lesson Aim: To grow in awareness of what it means to take up our cross and follow Jesus.

Ice-breaker: What is a team or group activity that you participated in when you were younger?

1. The theme of this month is BeOne. What does this term mean to you? Why do you think that it is so important to have unity and be on mission together?

2. Our vision is *“Everyone on Mission, developing generations of world changers”*. How can you BeOne with this vision and mission? What is something that you can do to help reach or connect with people? Is there anything that is holding you back?

3. **Read Matthew 10:37-39.** Jesus demands a loyalty that takes priority over the natural ties of life. What is something or who is someone that seems to distract you or take priority over your walk with Jesus? How can you change and realign this priority?

4. **Matthew 10:38** Jesus doesn't say My Cross, the cross of Jesus. Jesus knew that there would be possible suffering in following Him and we would have our own “cross” to carry. When is a time past or present that you felt like you were carrying your own cross? What did you do to lighten the weight of it? If you haven't, what can you do to lighten the weight of it?

5. **Read John 16:33** and **2 Corinthians 6:3-10.** Jesus never neglected to tell people that following Him would be tough. Why do you think that there are so many warnings as to the cost of following Jesus? What is it that makes this potential suffering or sacrifice worth it?

6. **John 20:21** The word “sent” is synonymous with the word “Missional.” Missional Living pursues God's intent for our lives. How are you “On Mission” for God today? How can you become even more “On Mission”?

7. **Read John 14:16-18.** Who is the “advocate” that Jesus says that He will leave for us forever? How do you see the Holy Spirit at work in your life? How does the Holy Spirit participate in our “staying on mission” efforts?

8. Knowing that we all have a cross to carry or sacrifice to make, how do you feel about the call to be On Mission? Knowing that you have an “advocate” to help you always, how can you reach out further to help others to the call of “missional living” for Jesus? What, if anything, is holding you back?

Daily Devotional Plan – Promises from the Bible about living on mission for Jesus.

Day 1 – Philippians 3:7-10

Day 2 – Luke 8:13

Day 3 – Matthew 7:21-23

Day 4 – 1 Peter 3:18-20

Day 5 – John 13:34

Day 6 – 2 Thessalonians 2:14-15

Day 7 – Matthew 16:24

To go deeper: Answer the following questions on a separate piece of paper/journal/laptop/etc.:

- What did you hear? (What did God say to you as you read the Scriptures for the day?)
- What do you think? (What does it mean to you, how does it apply to your life, and what difference will it make to you?)
- What will you do? (What action step will you take? How will you think differently? How will you live differently?)
- Now talk to God (Put your thoughts into prayer. It could be a prayer of gratitude or praise. It could be a prayer of confession or a request for God's help. It's up to you. But take a minute each day to write a prayer response to what you read in the Scriptures.)