



THE CHALLENGES OF DISCIPLESHIP

“²³Then he said to them all: Whoever wants to be my disciple must deny themselves and take up their cross daily and follow me.”

Luke 9:23 niv

Introduction:

“³⁴When He had called the people to Himself, with His disciples also, He said to them, Whoever desires to come after Me, let him deny himself, and take up his cross, and follow Me.” [Mark 8:34](#)

1. _____.

“¹⁵Do not love this world nor the things it offers you, for when you love the world, you do not have the love of the Father in you. ¹⁶For the world offers only a craving for physical pleasure, a craving for everything we see, and pride in our achievements and possessions. These are not from the Father, but are from this world.” [1 John 2:15-16 nlt](#)

“¹¹For the grace of God has been revealed, bringing salvation to all people. ¹²And we are instructed to turn from godless living and sinful pleasures. We should live in this evil world with wisdom, righteousness, and devotion to God, ¹³while we look forward with hope to that wonderful day when the glory of our great God and Savior, Jesus Christ, will be revealed.”
[Titus 2:11-13 nlt](#)

“¹⁷With the Lord’s authority I say this: Live no longer as the Gentiles do, for they are hopelessly confused. ¹⁸Their minds are full of darkness; they wander far from the life God gives because they have closed their minds and hardened their hearts against him. ¹⁹They have no sense of shame. They live for lustful pleasure and eagerly practice every kind of impurity. ²⁰But that isn’t what you learned about Christ. ²¹Since you have heard about Jesus and have learned the truth that comes from him, ²²throw off your old sinful nature and your former way of life, which is corrupted by lust and deception.” [Ephesians 4:17-22 nlt](#)

2. _____.

“²⁴Those who belong to Christ have crucified the flesh with its passions and lusts.” Galatians 5:24 web

“¹⁰Teach me to do your will, for you are my God. May your gracious Spirit lead me forward on a firm footing.” Psalm 143:10 nlt

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“¹⁷The world and its desires pass away, but whoever does the will of God lives forever.” 1 John 2:17 niv

3. _____.

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“¹Don’t let your hearts be troubled. Trust in God, and trust also in me.” John 14:1 nlt

Conclusion:

“²⁰And they left their nets at once and followed him.” Matthew 4:20 nlt

“⁶⁶From this time many of his disciples turned back and no longer followed him.” John 6:66 niv