Following Jesus to the Cross

Let the same mind be in you that was in Christ Jesus,
who, though he was in the form of God, did not regard equality with God
as something to be exploited, but emptied himself, taking the form of a slave,
being born in human likeness. And being found in human form, he humbled
himself and became obedient to the point of death – even death on a cross.
Philippians 2:5-8

Then he [Jesus] said to them all, "If any want to become my followers,
let the deny themselves and take up their cross daily and follow me." ~ Luke 9:23
[Also read: Matthew 10:38 & 16:24; Mark 8:34; Luke 14:27]

For to this you have been called, because Christ also suffered for you,
leaving you an example, so that you should follow in his steps. ~ 1 Peter 2:21

Whoever says, "I abide in him," ought to walk just as he walked. ~ 1 John 2:6

Whoever serves me must follow me, and where I am, there will my servant be also.
Whoever serves me, the Father will honor. ~ John 12:26

We know love by this, that he laid down his life for us –
and we ought to lay down our lives for one another. ~ 1 John 3:16

Do not be conformed to this world, but be transformed by the renewing of your minds, so that you may discern what is the will of God – what is good and acceptable and perfect. ~ Romans 12:2

I give you a new commandment, that you love one another. Just as I have loved you,
you also should love one another. By this everyone will know that you are my disciples,
if you have love for one another. ~ John 13:34-35

He himself bore our sins in his body on the cross, so that, free from sins, we might live for righteousness; by his wounds you have been healed. For you were going astray like sheep, but now you have returned to the shepherd and guardian of your souls. ~ 1 Peter 2:24-25

~ Joy Lutheran Church Evangelism Committee, Parker, Colorado ~