



7-Give Up Control

Matthew 16:24-27

1. What insight, principle or observation from this week's message did you find to be most helpful, eye opening or troubling? Please explain.
2. Have you ever been the recipient of a "control freak"? How did it go for you, and how did it affect your relationship with the person?
3. In what ways or areas are you most wanting control? Why is it hard to give up control of our desired future?
4. Read Matthew 16:24. What is required of a disciple? How might this affect our desire for control of our own future?
5. Read Matthew 16:25-27. What is the reason Jesus gives as to why we would even want to deny ourselves and follow him?
6. The alternative to control is trust. How is trusting God with our future so important yet so difficult? Why do you think God so often calls us out into the deep (beyond our comfort zone)?
7. Has there been a time in your life that trusting God took you into waters too deep, and you needed him to carry you? What did you learn?
8. What are some things that you need to release control of and rather trust God? What future plans do you need to release or change? What opportunities for service, outreach, or leadership is God calling you to, that you are currently resisting?
9. Pray for each other, that you would release your control, deny yourself, take up your cross and follow Jesus.