

## **The Cost of Your Confession**

Matthew 16:21-28

### **I. Confession leads to CONFLICT - 16:21-23**

“From that time Jesus began to show His disciples that He must go to Jerusalem, and suffer many things from the elders and chief priests and scribes, and be killed, and be raised up on the third day.” Peter took Him aside and began to rebuke Him, saying, “God forbid it, Lord! This shall never happen to You.” But He turned and said to Peter, “Get behind Me, Satan! You are a stumbling block to Me; for you are not setting your mind on God’s interests, but man’s.”

Matthew 16:21-23

### **II. Confession leads to COST - 16:24-28**

Then Jesus said to His disciples, “If anyone wishes to come after Me, he must deny himself, and take up his cross and follow Me. For whoever wishes to save his life will lose it; but whoever loses his life for My sake will find it. For what will it profit a man if he gains the whole world and forfeits his soul? Or what will a man give in exchange for his soul?”

Matthew 16:24-26

# Life Group Study Questions

## The Cost of Your Confession

Matthew 16:21-28

1. Did you ever buy something without understanding what it would truly cost? Describe that experience.

2. The message of suffering as part of God's perfect plan is hard for us to accept. Have you ever reacted like Peter to the plan of God for suffering in your own life? What did that look like?

3. Why was the suffering of Jesus necessary? What could only be accomplished through the Cross?

4. The "rebuke" of Jesus was a case of Peter presuming to know better than God about salvation. Have you ever said, like Peter, "GOD FORBID . . . GOD?" Have you ever denied your confession of Christ as God in this way? What was motivating you?

5. Have you ever been rebuked like Peter? Why does Jesus respond so strongly to Peter's suggestion that He should not die?

6. What is the similarity between what Peter suggested and the temptation of Jesus by Satan in Matthew 4?

7. True discipleship is self-denial and utter commitment to following Christ. If this statement is true, does your life presently reflect this reality?

8. Is there something in your life that does or has seemed more worth gaining than Christ? Is it worth your soul?

9. Those who chose self-indulgence instead of self-denial will have not hope when Christ returns. Have you chosen Christ? Do you need to chose Him again today? Pray for one another that we would be genuine followers of Christ.