

Living the Jesus Paradoxes: 'Dying is Living'

²¹From that time on Jesus began to explain to his disciples that he must go to Jerusalem and suffer many things at the hands of the elders, the chief priests and the teachers of the law, and that he must be killed and on the third day be raised to life.

²²Peter took him aside and began to rebuke him. "Never, Lord!" he said. "This shall never happen to you!" ²³Jesus turned and said to Peter, "Get behind me, Satan! You are a stumbling block to me; you do not have in mind the concerns of God, but merely human concerns."

²⁴Then Jesus said to his disciples, "Whoever wants to be my disciple must deny themselves and take up their cross and follow me. ²⁵**For whoever wants to save their life will lose it, but whoever loses their life for me will find it.** (Matthew 16:21-25)

*²⁰I have been crucified with Christ and I no longer live, but Christ lives in me. The life I now live in the body, I live by faith in the Son of God, who loved me and gave himself for me.
(Galatians 2:20)*

Ten things the Crucified Life is not . . .

1. Hating yourself
2. Intentionally hurting yourself
3. Denying your legitimate needs
4. Neglecting personal responsibilities
5. Comparing yourself negatively with others
6. Focusing on your shortcomings
7. Refusing to enjoy God's blessings
8. Feeling guilty all the time
9. Equating gloominess with holiness
10. Letting people walk over you

²⁴ Then Jesus said to his disciples, “Whoever wants to be my disciple must deny themselves and take up their cross and follow me. ²⁵ **For whoever wants to save their life will lose it, but whoever loses their life for me will find it.** (Matthew 16:24,25)

The three questions of the Crucified Life . . .

- ▶ Do I **_publicly_ _identify_** with Christ?

²⁵ *Whoever wants to be my disciple must deny themselves and take up their cross and follow me.* (Matthew 16:24)

- ▶ Do I make **_sacrifices_ to _serve_** Christ?

²⁵ *For whoever wants to save their life will lose it, but whoever loses their life for me will find it.* (Matthew 16:25)

- ▶ Do I have **_victory_ over _sin_** through Christ?

⁶For we know that our old self was crucified with him so that the body ruled by sin might be done away with, that we should no longer be slaves to sin— ⁷because **anyone who has died has been set free from sin. . . . ¹¹In the same way, count yourselves dead to sin but alive to God in Christ Jesus.** (Romans 6:6-7,11)

²¹ From that time on Jesus began to explain to his disciples that he must go to Jerusalem and suffer many things at the hands of the elders, the chief priests and the teachers of the law, and that he must be killed and on the third day be raised to life. (Matthew 16:21)