



EXPLORE THE BIBLE.

Luke Sermon Series

Supports Session 13: Unashamed

Sermon Title: "Know Him and Follow Him"

Passage: Luke 9:23-27

Connection to Luke 9

Jesus prepared the disciples for His coming passion and gave them the foundations for being His followers.

Introduction/Opening

When filling out a job application, we are usually asked about our qualifications. We may be asked if we know how to work a certain machine, are familiar with a specific process, or are comfortable using a certain software program. These qualifications also serve as clues to the expectations the job may carry. We may want the job but not want to fulfill the expectations carried in the qualifications.

Jesus shared with His disciples the qualifications of following Him. These qualifications give us clues as to what is expected of a follower of Jesus.

Outline

1. The Call to Discipleship (v. 23)

- a. This verse presents the concept of repentance and faith. Jesus directed this statement to everyone and not only to His disciples. He explained the type of commitment necessary to be His follower.
 - i. A person must deny himself or herself. He or she must say no to the old self. A person must give up reliance on what he or she is by nature and trust Jesus alone for salvation. This is repentance and faith in a nutshell.
 - ii. A person must take up the cross. What is the cross? It is not personal problems or difficult interpersonal relationships. A person accepts all the pain, shame, or ridicule associated with following Jesus.
 - iii. When a person takes up the cross, he or she keeps on following Jesus. Following Jesus means trusting and obeying Him.

2. The Paradox of Discipleship (vv. 24-25)

- a. If a person desires to save his or her life, it will be lost. Clinging to the things of the world or desiring to succeed financially without thought of his or her spiritual needs will cost a person eternally.
- b. On the other hand, if a person loses his or her life, it will be found. There may be loss in this life but there will be gain in the next. What good is it if a person gains the whole world and loses his or her life? There is no profit at all.

3. The Evidence of Discipleship (v. 26)

- a. A person ashamed of Jesus (an unbeliever) is one so proud that he or she wants to have nothing to do with Jesus or His words.
- b. It is impossible to separate the person of Jesus from the preaching of Jesus. The person who receives the preaching of Jesus also receives the person of Jesus and is not ashamed of Him. However, those who reject the person and preaching of Jesus will be rejected by Him—the Son of Man—at His coming.

4. The Blessing of Discipleship (v. 27)

- a. The Lord Jesus noted there were some hearing His words who would not taste death before they saw the kingdom of God.
- b. Seeing the kingdom of God and Jesus in all His glory awaits all who follow Jesus.

Conclusion

There is no question that believers are called to follow the Lord Jesus. Following Him means longing to be like Him, obeying Him, and submitting to His authority. This is something believers need to show clearly in daily experience.

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