

The Blessing

July 15, 2018

Mark 10:28-31 (NIV)

28 Then Peter spoke up, "We have left everything to follow you!"

29 "Truly I tell you," Jesus replied, "no one who has left home or brothers or sisters or mother or father or children or fields for me and the gospel **30** will fail to receive a hundred times as much in this present age: homes, brothers, sisters, mothers, children and fields—along with persecutions—and in the age to come eternal life. **31** But many who are first will be last, and the last first."

Matthew 4:18-22 (NIV)

18 As Jesus was walking beside the Sea of Galilee, he saw two brothers, Simon called Peter and his brother Andrew. They were casting a net into the lake, for they were fishermen. **19** "Come, follow me," Jesus said, "and I will send you out to fish for people." **20** _____ they left their nets and followed him.

21 Going on from there, he saw two other brothers, James son of Zebedee and his brother John. They were in a boat with their father Zebedee, preparing their nets. Jesus called them, **22** and _____ they left the boat and their father and _____.

Jesus is challenging us to look at our lives and see what we're _____ that's _____ from fully living for him.

God isn't looking to destroy your life, God wants to _____ your life.

The Christian community became _____ that excitedly _____ in new members and became family to those who had lost theirs.

Jesus never offered an easy way. He told people straight up that to be a Christian is a _____

Our reward might not come _____, but in Heaven.

Luke 9:23 (NIV)

Then he said to them all: "Whoever wants to be my disciple must deny themselves and take up their cross _____ and follow me."

Jesus gave us this story so we could begin to see the kind of faith that trusts **God** more than _____.

Matthew 6:25-33 (NIV)

25 "Therefore I tell you, do not worry about your life, what you will eat or drink; or about your body, what you will wear. Is not life more than food, and the body more than clothes? **26** Look at the birds of the air; they do not sow or reap or store away in barns, and yet your heavenly Father feeds them. Are you not much more valuable than they? **27** Can any one of you by worrying add a single hour to your life[a]?"

28 "And why do you worry about clothes? See how the flowers of the field grow. They do not labor or spin. **29** Yet I tell you that not even Solomon in all his splendor was dressed like one of these. **30** If that is how God clothes the grass of the field, which is here today and tomorrow is thrown into the fire, will he not much more clothe you—you of little faith? **31** So do not worry, saying, 'What shall we eat?' or 'What shall we drink?' or 'What shall we wear?' **32** For the pagans run after all these things, and your heavenly Father knows that you need them. **33** But seek first his kingdom and his righteousness, and all these things will be given to you as well.