

09-15-24 FOR THE JOURNEY THIS WEEK

“Taking up our cross means being willing to suffer the consequences of following Jesus faithfully, whatever those consequences might be. It means putting Jesus’ priorities and purposes ahead of our own comfort or security. It means being willing to lose our lives by spending them for others — using our time, resources, gifts, and energy so that others might experience God’s love made known in Jesus Christ.”

Elisabeth Johnson



Mark 8:27-38

Questions for Reflection —

- Who do you believe that Jesus is? What does it mean for you to ground your identity in Christ? What does it look like for your identity as a Christian to be shaped by Jesus's life and message? Who are you becoming as a follower of Jesus? What will help you continue to grow in spiritual maturity?

- What does it look like for you to set your mind on divine things? What are the human things that distract you? When/how has heeding God's call led you in a surprising direction, perhaps in a direction you did not wish to follow? In what area(s) of your life might God be inviting you to a different vision than what you are presently imagining or expecting?

- What is your cross? If you take up that cross what changes would you need to make in how you live your life? How are you being called to use your time, energy, resources, and gifts to make God's love known to others? What sacrifices might you need to make in order to do so? What does it mean for you to follow Jesus faithfully despite challenges and difficulties?

Daily Household Prayer

God of mercy: Help us to forgive, as you have forgiven us. Help us to trust you, even when hope is failing. Help us to take up our cross daily and follow you in your redeeming work; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.