

06-29-25 FOR THE JOURNEY THIS WEEK

“Jesus makes it very clear... that following him is an all-consuming task...We should not delude ourselves that being Christ's disciples is without sacrifice or that it is something we can commit to without counting the costs. Following Jesus changes us.”

Keira Austin-Young



Luke 9:51-62 + Galatians 5:1; 13-25

Questions for Reflection —

- How has following Jesus changed you? In what aspects of your life might Jesus be calling you to a new beginning or to undertake a task presently beyond your comfort zone? What does it look like for you to boldly live your faith? What risks are you willing to take in order to proclaim and advocate for (whether by speech or action) the values of God's kingdom?
- What would it look like for you to put your commitment to follow Jesus at the center of your life? What are the costs of making your Christian faith central in your life? What are the challenges to your living as a faithful disciple? What earthly priorities and values must you resist? What excuses do you sometimes make to avoid the difficulty of following Jesus? What will help strengthen your resolve to live as a true disciple?
- What does it look like to be led and guided by the Holy Spirit, to be connected with and dependent upon the Holy Spirit? How are the attributes of the Spirit's fruit (love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, gentleness, self-control) manifest in your daily words and behavior? How do you nurture the Spirit's fruit within? What spiritual practices might help you create room for the Spirit's fruit to grow and blossom? How do you share the fruit of the Spirit?

Daily Household Prayer

O God, we know that through the Holy Spirit you are always with us, but when serious illness or the death of loved ones confront us, we still feel so all alone. Be especially near us in our time of deepest need, Lord, and open our hearts to an awareness of your comforting, strengthening, renewing presence. We pray in Jesus' name. Amen.