

GO WITH ME
“Deny Self”
Luke 9:23-26

C.S. Lewis, “If you want a religion to make you feel really comfortable, I certainly don’t recommend Christianity.”

READ Luke 9:23-26

“If anyone would **go with me as my disciple**, let him deny himself and take up his cross daily and follow me.”

I. Jesus Denied Self

A. In becoming a man, Jesus denied himself the glories of heaven.

Philippians 2:6, “Who, though He was in the form of God, did not count equality with God a thing to be grasped.”

Philippians 2:7, “But made Himself nothing, taking the form of a servant, being born in the likeness of men.”

Philippians 2:8, “And being found in human form, He humbled himself by becoming obedient to the point of death, even death on a cross.”

Hebrews 2:14-15, “Because God’s children are human beings—made of flesh and blood—the Son also became flesh and blood. For only as a human being could he die, and only by dying could he break the power of the devil, who had the power of death. Only in this way could he set free all who have lived their lives as slaves to the fear of dying.”

B. In fulfilling the law, he denied himself the pleasures of sin.

Hebrews 4:15, “For we do not have a high priest who cannot sympathize with our weaknesses, but One who has been tempted in all things as we are, yet without sin.”

C. In dying on the cross, he denied himself protection from pain.

II. We are to deny self

A. Self is the best thing I have got and I am to give it to God

Oswald Chambers, “Naturally, a man regards his right to himself as the finest thing he has. Jesus is not teaching us to deny one part of ourselves in order to benefit another part of ourselves. The full force of Jesus’ words is ‘Let him deny his right to himself, let him give up his right to himself to Me.’”

B. Reorient my selfie world

“reorient” – change focus and direction.

A “selfie” world captures the moment but misses the message.

“Go with Me” catches the message and captures the moment.

C. Make tough, life-changing decisions in the shadow of the cross, and not by the desires of the heart.