

Pastor Faith Schierholt

For Sunday, September 1st
"Good Land, Great Obstacles"

Psalm 119:73-80 – *NIV*

- ⁷³ Your hands made me and formed me;
give me understanding to learn your commands.
- ⁷⁴ May those who fear you rejoice when they see me,
for I have put my hope in your word.
- ⁷⁵ I know, Lord, that your laws are righteous,
and that in faithfulness you have afflicted me.
- ⁷⁶ May your unfailing love be my comfort,
according to your promise to your servant.
- ⁷⁷ Let your compassion come to me that I may live,
for your law is my delight.
- ⁷⁸ May the arrogant be put to shame for wronging me without cause;
but I will meditate on your precepts.
- ⁷⁹ May those who fear you turn to me,
those who understand your statutes.
- ⁸⁰ May I wholeheartedly follow your decrees,
that I may not be put to shame.

Luke 9:21-26 – *NIV*

²¹ Jesus strictly warned them not to tell this to anyone. ²² And he said, "The Son of Man must suffer many things and be rejected by the elders, the chief priests and the teachers of the law, and he must be killed and on the third day be raised to life."

²³ Then he said to them all: "Whoever wants to be my disciple must deny themselves and take up their cross daily and follow me. ²⁴ For whoever wants to save their life will lose it, but whoever loses their life for me will save it. ²⁵ What good is it for someone to gain the whole world, and yet lose or forfeit their very self? ²⁶ Whoever is ashamed of me and my words, the Son of Man will be ashamed of them when he comes in his glory and in the glory of the Father and of the holy angels.

Takeaway: Jesus calls us to follow Him without reservation.

Questions:

1. What does it mean to you to “take up your cross daily and follow me?”
2. What does Jesus mean when he talks about losing one’s life to save it? Is this martyrdom or something else?
3. How is it possible to gain the whole world yet forfeit one’s self?
4. Ezekiel is called the “son of man” in the Old Testament, but Jesus calls himself the son of man also. (Son of man is also used in Daniel 7:13-14!) How are the titles the the same? How are they different?

Sermon: <https://podcast.wpcwestlake.org/services/mp3/sermon20240901.mp3>

Service Video: <https://youtu.be/puNmgyH9gS0>