



“Cross Purposes”

Mark 8:31-9:1 ♦ Pastor Jim Lennon
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Introduction –*The disciples were upset when Jesus began talking about His death. But that was only part of Jesus’ teaching. He invited them to also follow the “way of the Lord.”*

I. The Way of the Cross.

- A. Jesus’ ‘way’ involves His suffering and death.

- B. Jesus invites His disciples to follow the way of the cross by denying themselves, taking up their cross.

- C. Jesus gives them three reasons to follow the way of the cross each one signaled by the word – “for.”

- D. We need to receive three things from Jesus in order to follow Him by way of the cross.

II. How We Follow the Way of the Cross.

- A. We must receive a new identity from Jesus.
 - 1. When we believe in Jesus He gives us a whole new identity.
 - 2. Our old identity is based on how we well we perform.

- 3. Our new identity is based on our relationship to Jesus.

- 3. Our new identity in Jesus means we are approved and loved unconditionally forever.

B. We must receive a new agenda from Jesus.

- 1. Jesus rebukes Peter for following “man’s” interests.
- 2. What are “man’s interests?”

- 3. What are “God’s interests” and our new agenda?

- 4. What is Jesus’ new agenda for those who want to follow Him?

C. We must receive a new hope from Jesus.

- 1. We need a new vision of reality, that includes Jesus’ return.

- 2. This life is not all there is to live for.

Conclusion