Matthew 16:21-28 (p 1131)



It is a life of desiring - the heart must be willing. It is a life of denying self - the heart must be empty. It is a life of cross-bearing - the heart must endure. It is a life of following - the heart must obey.

THE HEART DESIRES TO COME AFTER JESUS ✓ A servant knows he is subjected to his master ✓ "If anyone desires to come after me" The full measure Mark 12:30 (p 1169) Matthew 26:39 (p 1146) Jesus desired My decisions James 4:13-15 (p 1389)

THE HEART IS WILLING TO EMPTY SELF-WILL Self-denial begins with denying self "Declare something to be untrue; disowning a person; abrogate, forsake, renounce" Matthew 26:69-74 (p 1147) Galatians 2:20 (p 1338)

THE HEART IS WILLING TO BEAR A CROSS ✓ Jesus said, "Take up his cross" Complete submission; no future; no power ✓ Submission must be carried MY CROSS - 1 Corinthians 10:13 (p 1318) Example: Acts 16:25 (p 1275)

THE HEART IS OBEDIENT TO THE SHEPHERD ✓ Jesus said, "Follow me" \checkmark His will is my will ✓ His word is my word ✓ His desire is my desire John 10:3-5 (p 1235)

FOR WHOEVER DESIRES TO SAVE HIS LIFE WILL LOSE IT, BUT WHOEVER LOSES HIS LIFE FOR MY SAKE WILL FIND IT. FOR WHAT PROFIT IS IT TO A MAN IF HE GAINS THE WHOLE WORLD, AND LOSES HIS OWN SOUL? OR WHAT WILL A MAN GIVE IN EXCHANGE FOR HIS SOUL? MATTHEW 16:25-26 (P 1132)

LET YOUR CONDUCT BE WITHOUT COVETOUSNESS; BE CONTENT WITH SUCH THINGS AS YOU HAVE. FOR HE HIMSELF HAS SAID, "I WILL NEVER LEAVE YOU NOR FORSAKE YOU." SO WE MAY BOLDLY SAY: "THE LORD IS MY HELPER; I WILL NOT FEAR. WHAT CAN MAN DO TO ME?" HEBREWS 13:5-6 (P 1384)

To be crucified means, first, the man on the cross is facing only one direction; second, he is not going back; and third, he has no further plans of his own. (A. W. Tozer)