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Faith to Walk on the Road to Glory Luke 9:23-45

Last Week: Jesus Prepares the Twelve for His Looming Rejection (vv. 9:1-22)

21 And he strictly charged and commanded them to tell this to no one, 22 saying, "The Son of Man must suffer many things and be rejected by the elders and chief priests and scribes, and be killed, and on the third day be raised."

What Jesus Must Do: Suffer, Be Rejected, and Die

Following Jesus means Denying Ourselves and Sacrificing for His Sake (vv. 23-27)

23 And he said to all, "If anyone would come after me, let him deny himself and take up his cross daily and follow me. 24 For whoever would save his life will lose it, but whoever loses his life for my sake will save it. 25 For what does it profit a man if he gains the whole world and loses or forfeits himself? 26 For whoever is ashamed of me and of my words, of him will the Son of Man be ashamed when he comes in his glory and the glory of the Father and of the holy angels. 27 But I tell you truly, there are some standing here who will not taste death until they see the kingdom of God."

- 1. Carrying Your Cross
- 2. We Mirror Jesus' Plan: Selfless Suffering for God's Glory

A Glimpe of Glory Strengthens the Disciples' Faith (vv. 28-36)

28 Now about eight days after these sayings he took with him Peter and John and James and went up on the mountain to pray. 29 And as he was praying, the appearance of his face was altered, and his clothing became dazzling white. 30 And behold, two men were talking with him, Moses and Elijah, 31 who appeared in glory and spoke of his departure, which he was about to accomplish at Jerusalem. 32 Now Peter and those who were with him were heavy with sleep, but when they became fully awake they saw his glory and the two men who stood with him. 33 And as the men were parting from him, Peter said to Jesus, "Master, it is good that we are here. Let us make three tents, one for you and one for Moses and one for Elijah"—not knowing what he said. 34 As he was saying these things, a cloud came and overshadowed them, and they were afraid as they entered the cloud. 35 And a voice came out of the cloud, saying, "This is my Son, my Chosen One; listen to him!" 36 And when the voice had spoken, Jesus was found alone. And they kept silent and told no one in those days anything of what they had seen.

2 Peter 1:16 For we did not follow cleverly devised myths when we made known to you the power and coming of our Lord Jesus Christ, but we were eyewitnesses of his majesty. 17 For when he received honor and glory from God the Father, and the voice was borne to him by the Majestic Glory, "This is my beloved Son, with whom I am well pleased," 18 we ourselves heard this very voice borne from heaven, for we were with him on the holy mountain.

Our Faith is what Enables us to Walk how Jesus Intends (vv. 37-43)

37 On the next day, when they had come down from the mountain, a great crowd met him. 38 And behold, a man from the crowd cried out, "Teacher, I beg you to look at my son, for he is my only child. 39 And behold, a spirit seizes him, and he suddenly cries out. It convulses him so that he foams at the mouth, and shatters him, and will hardly leave him. 40 And I begged your disciples to cast it out, but they could not." 41 Jesus answered, "O faithless and twisted generation, how long am I to be with you and bear with you? Bring your son here." 42 While he was coming, the demon threw him to the ground and convulsed him. But Jesus rebuked the unclean spirit and healed the boy, and gave him back to his father. 43 And all were astonished at the majesty of God.

Remember: Luke 9:1.. Why couldn't the disciples cast it out?

Matthew 17:19 Then the disciples came to Jesus privately and said, "Why could we not cast it out?" **20** He said to them, "Because of your little faith."

Jesus Emphasizes the Road ahead of Him (vv. 44-45)

But while they were all marveling at everything he was doing, Jesus said to his disciples, **44** "Let these words sink into your ears: The Son of Man is about to be delivered into the hands of men." 45 But they did not understand this saying, and it was concealed from them, so that they might not perceive it. And they were afraid to ask him about this saying.

Our "Glimpse of Glory": 2 Peter 1:19 And we have the prophetic word more fully confirmed, to which you will do well to pay attention as to a lamp shining in a dark place, until the day dawns and the morning star rises in your hearts

Application/Reflection

- 1. Verses 23-27 say that following Jesus means denying ourselves and taking up our cross daily (a lifestyle of sacrifice). Pray this week for the Holy Spirit to reveal ways in which you are seeking to "gain the whole world" and ask for His help in living selflessly and sacrificially in those areas.
- 2. Three of the disciples received an amazing glimpse of Jesus' glory on the mountain (vv.28-36) which served to strengthen their faith. We have received an even better glimpse at Jesus' glory (2 Peter 1:19) through God's Word! Spend time in the Word this week and practice beholding the glory of the Lord to strengthen your faith.
- 3. Read Philippians 2:1-11. How is God calling you to show humble obedience in your life, leading to His glory?

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