



Jesus Among Us

When Dying Means Living Part 1

October 25, 2026

Life Group Questions Text: Luke 9:18–24

BIG IDEA

Following Jesus isn't simply about what we're willing to give up. It's about surrendering ourselves to Him so that His life becomes increasingly visible in ours.

GETTING STARTED

1. We all have areas of life where we like to be in control! What's one area where you find it especially difficult when things don't go according to your plans?

DIGGING DEEPER

2. Jesus asked His disciples, "But who do you say that I am?" (Luke 9:20). We talked about how our confession of Jesus should be reflected in our commitment to Jesus. Why do you think it's sometimes easier to say we trust Jesus than to actually live like we do?

3. Jesus said that anyone who wants to follow Him must deny themselves and take up their cross "daily" (Luke 9:23). Why do you think Jesus emphasized the word "daily"? What makes daily surrender challenging, even for those of us who have followed Jesus for years?

4. We talked about how taking up our cross looks different in each of our lives. What are some everyday situations where following Jesus requires us to surrender our own desires, preferences, or attitudes?

5. One of today's challenges was, "When My Way Gives Way to His Will." Read Proverbs 3:5–6. Can you share a time when God's direction didn't align with what you wanted or expected? What did that experience teach you about trusting Him?

6. We also talked about "When My Pride Gives Way to His Humility." Pride doesn't always look like arrogance. Sometimes it shows up in needing the last word, struggling to apologize, or wanting recognition. Which of these expressions of pride do you think people most easily overlook in themselves? Why?

LIVING IT OUT

7. Think about your relationships, responsibilities, and circumstances this coming week. What's one specific area where you sense Jesus inviting you to surrender your way, humble yourself, or trust Him more fully? What would following Him look like in that situation?

CLOSING PRAYER

Spend some time praying for one another. Ask God to help each person recognize the areas where surrender is needed and to give them the humility, trust, and willingness to follow Jesus daily.

Remember: We don't carry our crosses to earn what Jesus accomplished. We follow Him because of what He has already done for us.