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**"All God's plans have the mark of the cross on them,  
and all His plans have death to self in them."**

[E.M. Bounds]

### ENGAGE & CONNECT

What is something you really enjoyed about your childhood home? \*If your childhood home was not a safe or pleasant place, share about another home during your lifetime.\*

### BEGIN WITH PRAYER

Spend a moment praying this passage, beginning your time together in humility and gratitude!

*"But I will sing of your strength; I will sing aloud of your steadfast love in the morning.  
For you are my fortress, my refuge in times of trouble. You are my strength,  
I sing praise to you; you, God, are my fortress, my God on whom I can rely."*

[Psalm 59:16]

### BIG IDEA

True rest, joy, satisfaction, and life can only be found in discipleship to Jesus!

### PASSAGE & DISCUSSION

#### Luke 9:18-27

1. In the sermon we heard, *"The soul is an investor and a profit-seeker."* How have you invested in and sought out profits for your life that were not in the ways of Jesus? What was the result?
2. Jesus said to take up your cross daily. How have you been hesitant to do that in the past? Why do you think that is?
3. In what ways do you at times prioritize "saving your life" rather than losing it for Christ's sake?
4. Jesus speaks of losing one's life to save it. How does this paradox challenge the way we view success and failure?
5. What does it look like for you to truly treasure Christ above all else in your daily life?
6. How do you understand the relationship between suffering and discipleship based on Jesus' words in this passage? How hard is that for you to believe and live out?
7. How do our modern-day "crosses" differ from the true meaning of cross-bearing Jesus speaks of?
8. What is one area of your life where you feel called to "deny yourself" more fully? How can you take a step toward that this week?

9. What does it mean to “gain the whole world” and yet forfeit your soul? How do you struggle with that at times?
10. Why do you think Jesus emphasizes the DAILY nature of taking up one’s cross?

## STEP OF OBEDIENCE

True rest, joy, satisfaction, and life can not be found without discipleship to Jesus. If we truly believe this truth, then the only real “deal” in life is to surrender ourselves to Jesus as revealed through His Words! Based on the Holy Spirit’s wisdom, what is a step of obedience that you can take to live out the “*Red Letter Life*”? Here are a few additional questions to consider ...

- Are you decisively committed to become a *DEVOTED disciple* of Jesus?
- What *enduring COMMITMENT* to live the specific words of Jesus will you take?
- Is this commitment from the heart and authentic to who God *called YOU* to be?
- Take a look at the [Commitment Card](#) for more ideas!

## PRAYER FOCUS

### Finding Our Home In Jesus

- Let’s take a moment to reflect on where our souls find rest. We often seek satisfaction, peace, and joy in the world—in accomplishments, relationships, or comfort. But Jesus invites us to find our true home in Him, in living according to His ways. *Allow for a moment of quiet.*
- Let’s invite the Holy Spirit to reveal the areas of our lives where we’re still searching for peace outside of Jesus. Let’s ask for a deeper commitment to discipleship, trusting that only in following Jesus—His teachings, His love, His example—can our souls find the true satisfaction, rest, and joy we long for.

## RLC RESOURCES

- Red Letter Challenge [WEBSITE](#), [VIDEOS](#), & [PODCAST](#)
- Would you share your Red Letter Challenge STORY with us? If so, complete [THIS FORM!](#)