

The man who loves his life will lose it, while the man who hates his life in this world will keep it for eternal life. Whoever serves me must follow me; and where I am, my servant also will be. My Father will honor the one who serves me. John 12:25-26

I'm Calling You Now

What does it mean to lose my life in this world? Am I living for the pleasures of this life? Does all of life revolve around me and what I want? Am I guided by comfort? When have I set aside my will, plans, and desires to serve you, Lord? **Those are good questions. Do you have any answers?** Right now, I want to sit here and live with these questions. I think it would be a mistake to quickly answer and dismiss them all in my favor. **I agree.** Then, I feel like I'm on the right track. **You are.** I also sense a danger here as well. **What's that?** I could sacrifice my life in complete service to others and yet not know you. **What do you mean?** Isn't it possible to give up my life in service to the wrong purpose, plan, or person? **Yes, it is. Tell me more of what you're thinking.** Your call is to give up my life to follow you. It isn't a call to give up my life to become a serving maniac. As I give up my life to you, the only way I can serve correctly is to live in a close relationship with you. It's not as if you'll give me a huge "to do" list and check back with me at the end of my life, I know that. **How do you know that?** You said, "follow me" and where you are, that's where I'll be. **Yes, that's true. How will that be possible and how will that happen?** That will only happen as I follow you. I need to wait, watch, and listen for your guidance. Otherwise I will likely go off course and not do what you want me to do and waste a lot of time doing what's unnecessary. **That's exactly right.**

I'm calling you right now. Come follow me. Don't love the world. Love me. I will guide your life. You will have real joy as you join me in the work I will give you to do. Is this what you want to do? Is this who you want to be? Do you want to be my follower? Do you want to serve me? Yes Lord, I do. **Good, then come. I am calling you right now.**

Lord, today is the day that I will stop living for myself. The things of this world no longer have me in their grip. My eyes are on you. My ears are attentive to you. I've heard your call. I will follow where you lead and do what you ask. Amen

Identity*Whoever Serves Me*

The man who loves his life will lose it, while the man who hates his life in this world will keep it for eternal life. Whoever serves me must follow me; and where I am, my servant also will be. My Father will honor the one who serves me.

NIV

John 12:25-26

Identity*If Anyone Serves Me*

Whoever loves his life loses it, and whoever hates his life in this world will keep it for eternal life. If anyone serves me, he must follow me; and where I am, there will my servant be also. If anyone serves me, the Father will honor him.

ESV

John 12:25-26

Identity*Anyone Who Wants To Be My Disciple*

Those who love their life in this world will lose it. Those who care nothing for their life in this world will keep it for eternity. Anyone who wants to be my disciple must follow me, because my servants must be where I am. And the Father will honor anyone who serves me.

NLT

John 12:25-26

Identity*If Anyone Serves Me*

He who loves his life will lose it, and he who hates his life in this world will keep it for eternal life. If anyone serves Me, let him follow Me; and where I am, there My servant will be also. If anyone serves Me, him My Father will honor.

NKJV

John 12:25-26

Identity*Whoever Serves Me*

Those who love their life lose it, and those who hate their life in this world will keep it for eternal life. Whoever serves me must follow me, and where I am, there will my servant be also. Whoever serves me, the Father will honor.

NRSV

John 12:25-26

Identity*If Any Of You Wants To Serve Me*

In the same way, anyone who holds on to life just as it is destroys that life. But if you let it go, reckless in your love, you'll have it forever, real and eternal. "If any of you wants to serve me, then follow me. Then you'll be where I am, ready to serve at a moment's notice. The Father will honor and reward anyone who serves me.

MSG

John 12:25-26

Identity*If Anyone Serves Me*

Anyone who loves his life loses it, but anyone who hates his life in this world will keep it to life eternal. [Whoever has no love for, no concern for, no regard for his life here on earth, but despises it, preserves his life forever and ever.] If anyone serves Me, he must continue to follow Me [to cleave steadfastly to Me, conform wholly to My example in living and, if need be, in dying] and wherever I am, there will My servant be also. If anyone serves Me, the Father will honor him.

AMP

John 12:25-26

Identity*If These Greeks Want To Be My Disciples*

If you love your life down here—you will lose it. If you despise your life down here—you will exchange it for eternal glory. "If these Greeks want to be my disciples, tell them to come and follow me, for my servants must be where I am. And if they follow me, the Father will honor them.

TLB

John 12:25-26

Identity*If Anyone Serves Me*

"He who loves his life loses it, and he who hates his life in this world will keep it to life eternal. "If anyone serves Me, he must follow Me; and where I am, there My servant will be also; if anyone serves Me, the Father will honor him.

NASB

John 12:25-26

Identity*Whoever Serves Me*

Those who love their lives will lose them, but those who hate their lives in this world will keep true life forever. Whoever serves me must follow me. Then my servant will be with me everywhere I am. My Father will honor anyone who serves me.

NCV

John 12:25-26

Whoever Serves Me

Year _____ Week _____ Day _____ Date _____

Identity – John 12:25-26

In Context: *Read John 12*

Begin With Prayer:

Here I am Lord. I Am Listening.

Meditating On God's Word: ***(What is God speaking to your heart?)***

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Considering The Words: ***(What words speak to your heart?)***

The man | who loves | his life | will lose it, | while | the man | who hates | his life | in this world | will keep it | for eternal life. | Whoever | serves me | must | follow me; | and | where I am, | my servant | also | will be. | My Father | will honor | the one | who | serves me. John 12:25-26

Praying The Scripture:

(What prayer from your heart will you write?)

Lord, today is the day that I will stop living for myself. The things of this world no longer have me in their grip. My eyes are on you. My ears are attentive to you. I've heard your call. I will follow where you lead and do what you ask. Amen

What It Means: ***(What questions speak to your heart?)*** *(Suggested questions for small group discussion are in bold)*

What does it look like to love your life and the things of this world?

What does it mean to give your life to Christ instead of loving your life in this world?

How has your life and love for this world changed since you gave your life to Christ?

How has giving your life to Christ made your life completely available to serving Him?

Why must you come to Christ before you can fruitfully engage in serving Him?

How have you known what service the Lord wants you to do for Him?

What will happen to you one day because you have followed and served the Lord?

Living It Out:

(What action step is God guiding your heart to take?)

Respond to Christ's call to come and follow Him so that you can be with Him as His servant to do what He asks.

Seeing It Happen:

(What are you trusting God for in your heart?)

Have faith that Jesus Christ is calling you to follow and serve Him.

Get Ready To Share:

(What can you share with others from your heart?)

Share with another person or your small group how Christ's call to follow and serve Him has radically changed your life.

Close With Prayer:

Quiet Yourself Before The Lord

Pause And Offer Prayers Of...

With An Attitude Of Faith Listen To What The Lord Wants To Say To You

Adoration... _____

Thanksgiving... _____

Confession... _____

Intercession... _____

Petition... _____

