

The cost of following Jesus

Matthew 16:21-27

Nic Lines

Jesus didn't call us to a life of sunshine and glamour. He called us to pass through death in order to find life.

Group Questions

Firstly, read the text and then as a group discuss what you can remember about the talk and what most impacted you?

Nic spoke initially about his own personal battle with wanting to control his life and his circumstance. He challenged us to see how many of us like to be in charge and as a result often push Jesus into the passenger seat of our lives.

Discuss, as a group, if you see control in others as well as recognising if you struggle with it yourself – bearing in mind it's easy to see a controlling characteristic in others! If you were feeling brave, you ask each other if they see a controlling characteristic within you?!

Nic went on to share, from the text, that Jesus calls us to relinquish control of our lives because it is simply a better way to live. He showed how when we fail to relinquish control we end up stumbling and by default we stop following Jesus.

Can you recognise areas in your life where you stumble over and over again? Or areas in which you're not experiencing the fullness of God? Consider if there is a root issue of you trying to take control of the situation and therefore hindering God moving.

Finally, Nic shared that to relinquish control, means to die to ourselves.

In what areas of your life do you need to relinquish control, and what does this look like?