

# COMMAND #7: DIE

<i>Looking Back</i>	<i>Looking Up</i>	<i>Looking Forward</i>
<p><b>1. CARE</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• PRAISES/REQUESTS</li><li>• PRAY FOR EACH OTHER</li></ul> <p><b>2. LOVING ACCOUNTABILITY</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• ABIDE?</li><li>• MISSION STATEMENT?</li><li>• PREVIOUS GOAL(S)</li></ul>	<p><b>3. WORSHIP + SEEK</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• 1 CORINTHIANS 14:26</li></ul> <p><b>4. VISION</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• GREAT COMMISSION</li></ul> <p><b>5. NEW LESSON</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• COMMAND &gt; STORY &gt; READ &gt; ASK &gt; EXPLORE</li></ul>	<p><b>6. SETTING GOALS</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• HOW WILL WE OBEY AND APPLY THE COMMAND?</li></ul> <p><b>7. PRACTICE</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• 20 SEC TESTIMONY   3 CIRCLES   OIKOS MAP</li></ul> <p><b>8. COMMISSION</b></p>

## NEW LESSON

**READ THE COMMAND:** IN LUKE 9:23-25, JESUS SAYS...

**TELL THE STORY:** JOHN 12:24-26

**READ THE STORY ALOUD**

**DISCOVER/ASK:** USE THE SWORD BIBLE STUDY METHOD TO DISCUSS THE STORY AND REVEAL ITS MEANING FOR OUR LIVES

- PRACTICE RETELLING THE STORY

**EXPLORE MORE:**

### A. WHAT DOES IT MEAN TO TAKE UP YOUR CROSS?

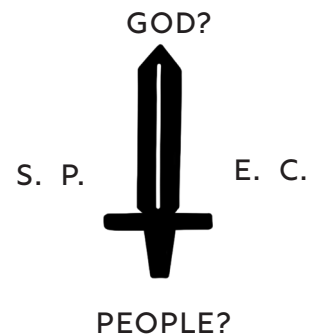
- Luke 9:23 gives a more clear comparison in that we are commanded to deny ourselves (doing what WE want to do, and how and when WE want to do them...).

### B. HOW OFTEN ARE WE CALLED TO DO THIS?

- In Luke 9:23, Jesus says we are to do this DAILY!

### C. WHY DO YOU THINK THIS IS FUNDAMENTAL FOR A BELIEVER?

- Even though we have the Holy Spirit within us as a guide and revealer of the heart and will of God, He does not "override" our wants and actions in everything we do. As we surrender to Him, He will transform and change our desires, but it is not forced. We still retain the ability to choose disobedience. We still retain the ability to depend and lean upon our own "strengths" to get us through. We can still be busy focusing on what WE think is important or desirable and miss out on what GOD is wanting to do. This command goes hand-in-hand with the command to Pursue Partnership with the Holy Spirit because it is only through His power that we are able to please the Lord and do the work we are called to do. However, it takes a daily, intentional dying to ourselves for this to happen! We must daily remind ourselves that the day belongs to the Lord, and realign our desires and plans together with His. If Jesus says that we must "follow Him," then He must be on the move! So we must daily lift our head to see where He is, where He is headed, and join Him there!



C. WHAT THINGS DO YOU, PERSONALLY, THINK YOU NEED TO DIE TO? (THIS INCLUDES ANYTHING FROM SPECIFIC SINS YOU HAVEN'T REPENTED OF TO AREAS OF STRENGTH OR PRIDE WITHIN YOURSELF THAT YOU DEPEND ON MORE THAN YOU DEPEND ON GOD... IT MAY ALSO INCLUDE THINGS THAT AREN'T NECESSARILY SINFUL, BUT YOU DEVOTE MORE TIME, ENERGY, RESOURCE, AND PASSION INTO THAN YOU DO THE LORD)?

- Make sure to encourage people to try and answer each of these areas. Maybe you could break the discussion into parts based on the different things mentioned in parentheses.

D. WHAT DO YOU THINK IT MEANS THAT GOD WOULD HONOR SOMEONE WHO SERVES JESUS?

- Matthew 10:32-33 gives a clear example extending from Luke 9:26 of how we will be honored by the Lord in heaven (with eternal salvation). If you reask the question in the form of how God honors our prayer requests (or not), it gives us an idea of how God's honor/favor/blessings play out in our daily life.

## **SETTING GOALS**

HOW WILL WE OBEY AND APPLY THE COMMAND?