



DISCUSSION GUIDE FOR SMALL GROUPS

5 & 6 MARCH 2022

“WHO DO YOU SAY I AM”

LUKE 9.18-27

As mentioned during the sermon, due to a miscommunication, the Scripture text for this weekend is the same as last weekend's. Nevertheless, we trust that God continues to speak through this his Word.

The main study guide material for this sermon series is to be purchased at <https://spckpublishing.co.uk/for-everyone-bible-study-guide-215>.

It is recommended that the e-book be purchased. Nevertheless, individuals or Connect Groups that wish to purchase hardcopies may do so from physical Christian bookstores, or online stores (Amazon, Bookdepository, Blackwells, etc)

The material in this document is intentionally brief. It is intended as a supplement only.

- **Begin by reading the Scripture passage together.**
- **Review the video of the sermon if needed (see <http://www.brmc.org.sg/category/resources/sermons>).**
- **Refer to the [main study guide](#) Chapter 11 as well as this supplementary material.**
- **Feel free to discuss as few or as many questions as best fits your group's current context and present stage in life.**
- **Remember to allocate some time (15-20 min) to pray with and for one another, before ending your group session.**

Response, Application, Prayer

1. Consider the following commentary on the Scripture text:

“A way of life that could be called cross bearing would have to be a life one had “taken up”; that is, it would be voluntarily chosen.

Arthritis, poor grades, an unhappy marriage, or a child on drugs would not qualify, even though these and other difficulties are sometimes called “crosses we have to bear.” These and all other human hurts are not beyond the compassion of the one who is touched by the feeling of all our infirmities (Heb. 4:14–16), but they are not crosses as spoken of here.

A way of life that could be called cross bearing would have to involve denial of self in the service of God.”

-Fred B. Craddock, *Luke*, Interpretation Commentary Series (Louisville, KY: John Knox Press, 1990), 130.

Pastor Wendy, in her sermon, made this same point using different words.

- a) In light of this explanation, have you in the past misunderstood or misapplied the phrase “taking up the cross”?
 - b) How is God moving you to consciously and voluntarily choose to deny your own wants in service of God?
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2. Last week, your group was invited to reflect on your weekly activities, especially *in non-church settings on weekdays* in the workplace, in school, in social settings, or at home.
 - a. Since your last group meeting, have you found yourself in a situation where you’ve had to consciously choose to avow or affirm Jesus as Lord, in word or in deed? Share with your group how you saw God working in that situation.
 - b. Pray for one another, that in the weeks ahead, each of us will be empowered to bear witness to Jesus on a weekday, outside of a church or Christian setting.