

READ: Mark 1:17, Matthew 16:22-26, 1 Corinthians 15:31

OPEN

- How was your week? Briefly share a win from your life this past week.
- Who has been a Christian in your life that has demonstrated what it means to be a disciple of Jesus?

BIG IDEA:

The prerequisites to becoming a disciple of Jesus are:

1. Setting your mind on the things above
2. Carrying your cross
3. Denying yourself

DIG:

***Read:** Mark 1:17

- Discuss The Four Stages:
 1. Believers – acknowledge God
 2. Christians – have some qualities that resemble God and the Bible
 3. Followers – actively pursue a relationship with God, learning to be selfless, surrender, submit, and serve
 4. Disciples – complete obedience to the Word of God, multiplication, follows the teacher and the teaching, becomes an apprentice to be trained for something significant God assigned to them.
- Where would you say that you are in these four stages today? Why?

*** Read:** Matthew 16:22-26

- In Matthew 16:13-22, Jesus is with the disciples at a region called Caesarea Philippi. At this location people would come from all over to make sacrifices to many different gods. Jesus poses these questions in Matt. 16:13, "*Who do people say the Son of Man is?*" And Peter confesses, "You are the Messiah, the Son of the living God." Then Jesus says to the disciples again, "*Who do you say that I am?*" What is so important about Peter's confession of Jesus? Who do you say Jesus is?
- In Matthew 16:22-23, Peter moves from confessing Jesus as the Son of God to rebuking Him. Peter went from you are the Rock to being a stumbling block or tripping hazard. Why is it so important to have our mind set on the things of Christ daily?
- Read Matthew 16:24.
- What does it mean to carry your cross as a follower of Christ?
- Why is denying yourself so difficult? How can we submit to the Ways and Word of God daily?
- What are practical things we can do to deny ourselves? What has worked for you in your faith journey?
- What is your next level you want to take in your relationship with Jesus?

REFLECT:

- Reflect as a group on this Dietrich Bonhoeffer quote: "When Christ calls a man, He bids him come and die."
- What does it mean to be disciple of Christ on a day-by-day basis?
- How has the Holy Spirit illuminated or shown you something to apply to your faith this week?

VISION OPPS:

- Ladies and men may sign up to serve at the BOB Conference at the Connection Point. This is a great opportunity to not only serve the men who are attending, but also to have fun serving with ladies from all campuses at BCC. Men who received the discounted rate get to serve as a thank you
- Band of Brothers Men's Conference: Overcomer - November 2-4
For guys in Junior High and older
Thursday evening, all day Friday, and Saturday morning
We are expecting 300 men to come together from the northern states to worship together and to be equipped . Pastor Jon will share Thursday night, our founding pastor, Keith Tucci will share
Register at nrpastors.com
- We will recognize Pastor Eric and Rachel Bimber as our MV Campus Pastor on November 5th, 6pm at MV campus – personally invite people to attend who you see are ready to take the next step in ministry
- **LADIES - We have an upcoming ministry event at Bridge City that is specifically geared towards women. Jim Anderson from Sexuality Unmasked will be ministering here at Bridge City Church.** *This ministry is about releasing God's truth, healing, and restoration in the area of sexuality. Jim Anderson presents a prophetic panorama of our sexually broken and culture and exposes the ravenous wolves of America's sex culture that seek to destroy a generation of young women and men. Unmasked has insights that offer release to women as they recognize the lies of the culture that have affected them.*
Monday, November 6, at the North Braddock Campus, two options are available to attend at 11am and 6:30pm.
Sign up at: <https://bridgecity.fellowshiponego.com/external/form/2e3c75c0-94f6-4804-aa13-aa0754061e24>
*If you would like to learn more about Jim Anderson and his ministry, you can visit: Sexualityunmasked.com. There are incredible testimonies on the site that you can share with your groups.