



# The Messiah's Authoritative Discipleship

Matthew 8:18-22

***Jesus is worthy of following; therefore, we must follow Him resolutely.***

*Two keys to following Jesus resolutely.*

1. \_\_\_\_\_ the \_\_\_\_\_ (v19-20).

2. \_\_\_\_\_ the \_\_\_\_\_ (v21-22).

The following readings and questions are designed to help you reflect on the truths found in this week's sermon in order that you might retain them in your life. You might find the most benefit by reading this week's passage along with the daily passage.

**READ**



**REFLECT**



**RETAIN**

**MONDAY:**

Matthew 8:18-22

When is keeping being optimistic about following Christ a positive thing? When can it be a negative thing? What can we do to balance between unrealistic optimism and depressing pessimism in following Christ?

**TUESDAY:**

Isaiah 6:1-13

Isaiah's call is inspiring until we read v9-13; how are unrealistic optimism in following Christ tempered here? How can these verses encourage us in difficulties? What perspective changes could improve your outlook?

**WEDNESDAY:**

1 Kings 19:19-21

How does Elisha show an urgency to obey in following Elijah here? How does he show a determination not to return? How does your life reflect this urgency and determination? What is preventing this level of commitment?

**THURSDAY:**

Luke 9:18-27

Given the context, what does Christ mean by telling His disciples to take up their cross? Since we don't literally die on a cross, how do we reflect obedience in our lives? How would seeing yourself as dead aid your commitment?

**FRIDAY:**

Matthew 8:18-22

Can you think of a time in your life when God demanded immediate commitment but you wavered and lost your opportunity? What needs to change in your thinking to be ready for next time? What steps will you take in that?

**SATURDAY & SUNDAY:**

Matthew 8:19-34

Read the passage for November 3 in preparation for Sunday.