

# DYING TO LIVE

6/30/2024 | Pastor Erwin Ramos

**WARM UP QUESTIONS:** Do you like change? Have you ever wanted to make a life change (like leaving home for college or a career change), but were concerned about what would need to be left behind?

**READ:** Mark 10:28-31

**FOCUS:** DISCIPLESHIP IS ABOUT HAVING A NEW HEART AND LEAVING OWNERSHIP OF EVERYTHING TO FOLLOW JESUS.

**OBSERVE:** Following Jesus means being compelled to radically live for Jesus. And that means dying to self in order to live, leaving some things behind, as we pursue what is ahead.

Mark 10:28- Peter said to him, "We have left everything to follow you!"

**Teaching 1: Build lifelong marriages (Mark 10:5-9, 10-12)** Here Jesus emphasizes the importance of marriage being a lifelong covenant. This involves lifelong discipleship by addressing our "hardness of heart". Only Jesus can change our hardened hearts.

**Teaching 2: Bring children to Jesus (Mark 10:13-16)** Jesus rebukes the disciples for hindering children to be blessed by Him. As a discipleship challenge. He wants all of us to have child-like faith, a radical dependence on Him for all that we need.

**Teaching 3: Live like you own nothing (Mark 10:17-22)** Here Jesus challenges a rich man to "sell all you have and give it to the poor – then you will have treasure in heaven: and come, follow me". The man got up disheartened and left Jesus, because he had many possessions. The message is that we ought to live like we own nothing in this world, so that we will not be attached to material things; so that we will not end up loving the world and hating God.

**REFLECT:** THE LORD WANTS US TO BE SAVED AND HE WANTS US FOLLOW HIM! He wants us to leave everything and follow Him because He actually plans to fill our lives with kingdom wealth and joy far beyond what it will cost to follow Him.

**TAKE ACTION:** Take inventory of your life: relationships, possessions, money, location, family, job, status, etc. Would any of them ever hinder you from following Jesus? If so, yield them to Him.

**PRAY:** Jesus, Your Word makes it clear that You want me to follow You. Please soften my hard heart so that I can receive Your grace and mercy, so that I can be saved and become Your disciple. Please help me have child-like faith and remain completely dependent on You. Please help me live like I own nothing so that nothing will hinder Your desire to bless me with the treasures of Your Kingdom. Amen.