

MESSAGE NOTES



Series: After the One
Message: The Cost of Going After One
Speaker: Rusty Coram
Date: November 9th, 2025

“³⁴ Then, calling the crowd to join his disciples, he said, “If any of you wants to be my follower, you must give up your own way, take up your cross, and follow me. ³⁵ If you try to hang on to your life, you will lose it. But if you give up your life for my sake and for the sake of the Good News, you will save it. ³⁶ And what do you benefit if you gain the whole world but lose your own soul? ³⁷ Is anything worth more than your soul? ³⁸ If anyone is ashamed of me and my message in these adulterous and sinful days, the Son of Man will be ashamed of that person when he returns in the glory of his Father with the holy angels.”

Mark 8:34–38 (NLT)

To accept the gift Jesus offers, I must let go of everything else.

Without good priorities, good values are meaningless.

When I choose Jesus as my first priority, I will discover my true purpose and potential.

“²⁴ I tell you the truth, unless a kernel of wheat is planted in the soil and dies, it remains alone. But its death will produce many new kernels—a plentiful harvest of new lives. ²⁵ Those who love their life in this world will lose it. Those who care nothing for their life in this world will keep it for eternity. ²⁶ Anyone who wants to serve me must follow me, because my servants must be where I am. And the Father will honor anyone who serves me.”

John 12:24–26 (NLT)

BIBLE TRANSLATIONS:
NLT– New Living Translation

TAKE HOME SHEET



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Read the passage from Mark 8 a few times.

Why do you think Jesus requires “giving up our own way” to receive the new life He offers?

How are people tempted to “be ashamed” of Jesus?

Can you think of an example of someone seemingly having everything but, in reality, losing their soul in the process?

Read the passage from John 12.

What happens to a grain of wheat (or acorn) when it gets planted into the ground?

What does it cost for it to become a reproducing plant?

What are some similar ways our lives will change if we fully devote ourselves to following Jesus?

What is one thing you believe God is nudging you to change this week in order to follow Him more closely?