

What's In It *For Me*?

2Cor. 5:14 For *the love of Christ* urges us on, because we are convinced that one has died for all; therefore all have died.

Love of Christ = love from Christ, love for Christ, love of Christ for others

Matt. 10:39 Those who find their life will lose it, and those who lose their life for my sake will find it.

FIND YOUR LIFE = chase “the good life”
now

--> Seek THIS and you won't find *real* life.

LOSE YOUR LIFE = forsake chasing
“the good life” now

--> You'll find *real* life.

Luke 14:27-28 Whoever does not carry the cross and follow me cannot be my disciple. For which of you, intending to build a tower, does not first sit down and estimate the cost, to see whether he has enough to complete it?

Matt. 8:18-22 Now when Jesus saw great crowds around him, he gave orders to go over to the other side. A scribe then approached and said, “Teacher, I will follow you wherever you go.” And Jesus said to him, “Foxes have holes, and birds of the air have nests; but the Son of Man has nowhere to lay his head.” Another of his disciples said to him, “Lord, first let me go and bury my father.” But Jesus said to him, “Follow me, and let the dead bury their own dead.”

Luke 1:28, 30-33 And he came to her and said, “Greetings, favored one! The Lord is with you... Do not be afraid, Mary, for you have found favor with God. And now, you will conceive in your womb and bear a son, and you will name him Jesus. He will be great, and will be called the Son of the Most High, and the Lord God will give to him the throne of his ancestor David. He will reign over the house of Jacob forever, and of his kingdom there will be no end.”

Mk 3:20-22. Then Jesus entered a house, and again a crowd gathered, so that he and his disciples were not even able to eat. When his family heard about this, they went to take charge of him, for they said, “He is out of his mind.” And the teachers of the law who came down from Jerusalem said, “He is possessed by Beelzebub! By the prince of demons he is driving out demons.” (NIV)

Jn 19:26. When Jesus saw his mother and the disciple whom he loved standing beside her, he said to his mother, “Woman, here is your son.”

Matt 11:2-6. When John heard in prison what the Messiah was doing, he sent word by his disciples and said to him, “Are you the one who is to come, or are we to wait for another?” Jesus answered them, “Go and tell John what you hear and see: the blind receive their sight, the lame walk, the lepers are cleansed, the deaf hear, the dead are raised, and the poor have good news brought to them. And blessed is anyone who takes no offense at me.”

The Messiah would “proclaim liberty to the captives, and *release to the prisoners*” (**Is 61:1**, emphasis added).

Heb. 11:35-39. [Some] were tortured, refusing to accept release, in order to obtain a better resurrection. Others suffered mocking and flogging, and even chains and imprisonment. They were stoned to death, they were sawn in two, they were killed by the sword; they went about in skins of sheep and goats, destitute, persecuted, tormented.... They wandered in deserts and mountains, and in caves and holes in the ground. Yet all these, though they were commended for their faith, did not receive what was promised...

The

“What’s-In-It-For-Me?”

Jesus has **NOTHING** to do
with the *real* Jesus!

**Heartbroken (like Mary), full of doubt
while dying in prison (like John),
crucified, tortured, mocked and
flogged, stoned, sawn in two,
killed by the sword; destitute,
persecuted, tormented,
wandering in deserts and
mountains, and in caves and
holes in the ground and not
receiving what was promised...**