

Gospels: Seeing our Glorious God

Luke 9:22-26

"Unashamed of Jesus"—February 19, 2023



Introduction

Have you ever used a travel agent to book a vacation? Their job is to get you from point A to point B. A good travel agent gives crystal clear instructions. They are best at what they do when they have already traveled to the destination before you, and they are also not afraid to graciously warn you of the pitfalls of the destination.

To be a good traveler, you have to have the right expectations. You have to have trust and faith. You must always have the long game in sight. To truly benefit from a good travel agent, one must be a humble traveler.

For our Christian journey, we have something better than a travel agent. We have Jesus who has gone before us. What kind of traveler are you? Are you a humble traveler? Are you anxious to learn from the one who has gone before? Or do you think you have all the answers?

Sermon Outline

1. The Directions Vs. 23
2. The Destination Vs. 24-26

Read & Discuss

1. Read vs. 23

Jesus knows everything on the road ahead. He calls you to Himself. It doesn't matter what you have done. Are you struggling to believe that God cares for you? Here is His invitation to come to Him. Do you deeply desire and have a hunger to come after Christ? If you do, come to Him today!

Don't waste your life. You were made in the image of God, and He has given you a purpose, a hope, and a future. What is keeping you from coming to Him? What is holding you back? We are not designed to be indifferent to Jesus. We were designed to go to the Creator of the universe for everything we need and give Him all that we are. There is no greater purpose. What are you living for this week that you think is better than Jesus Christ? We don't desire God without His help, and He stands ready to help.

There are three things that it looks like to have a saving faith - deny yourself, take up your cross daily, follow Jesus. Jesus is up front with what it means to be a real, biblical Christian. Do these things define your life? Does every avenue of your life look like this? Does the thought of denying yourself make you uncomfortable? It goes against everything we want because we want to be independent.

Denying yourself doesn't mean denying your gifts and abilities. It means denying your selfish ambition. Our identity is only found in Christ. What does this look like? It looks like less of a plan and more of an open hand. Who is calling the shots in your life? Is it you or is it God? How can you know? Search His word. Is there sin that you need to repent of? Do you just look like you are following Christ or are you really following?

Pick up your cross daily. Jesus knows that you will struggle because it is a daily, continual task. We are in a fight, but we have help. Jesus was willing to come and show us how to live. He shows us how to give our lives for service, and He is our Helper. What is keeping you from coming to Him and following Him?

2. Read vs. 24-26

Christ gave us clear directions with a call to come to Him. He also gave us a warning. He knows that there is only one way that this life ends. There is righteous judgment coming, and it isn't something to brush off.

Do you want to save your life, protect your throne, etc.? You will surely lose it. This is an eternal death, and an eternal warning. While we are living, this is our chance to come to the Father. Our sin separates us, but Christ came to make us right before God. If you look to yourself, you will lose your life. What in your life are you trying to protect or save or keep to yourself?

If you lose your life for Christ and His glory, His purpose, His mission, you will save your life. The problem is that a lot of us are comfortable with our life. We want to hold onto that comfort very tightly. That will only destroy the life you are trying to protect. Jesus assures us that we are saved when we trust in Him. He tells us, time and time again, that there is great peace, joy and satisfaction in coming to Him. He is able to help you. He can handle the circumstances of your life because He has already done it. Is it hard for you to trust Him?

There is a day coming when we will either be found in Him or outside of Him. If we are not in Him, He will be ashamed of us on judgment day. ([Rev. 1:7-8](#)) Are you submitting to Him? Is He your Savior and Helper?

Prayer of Response

1) After hearing God's Word, what sin do I need to confess? From what do I need to repent?

2) How should my life be lived this week based on what I have heard? What should I *understand, believe, desire, or do*?

Spend time praying together in response to God's word asking for His help and greater faith to follow Him in the week to com. If you missed the sermon on Sunday or would like to listen again, visit our website at <https://fbcum.org/sermons-new/>

Next week's sermon text: we turn to Genesis 20:1-18 "The Fear of Man is a Snare"
