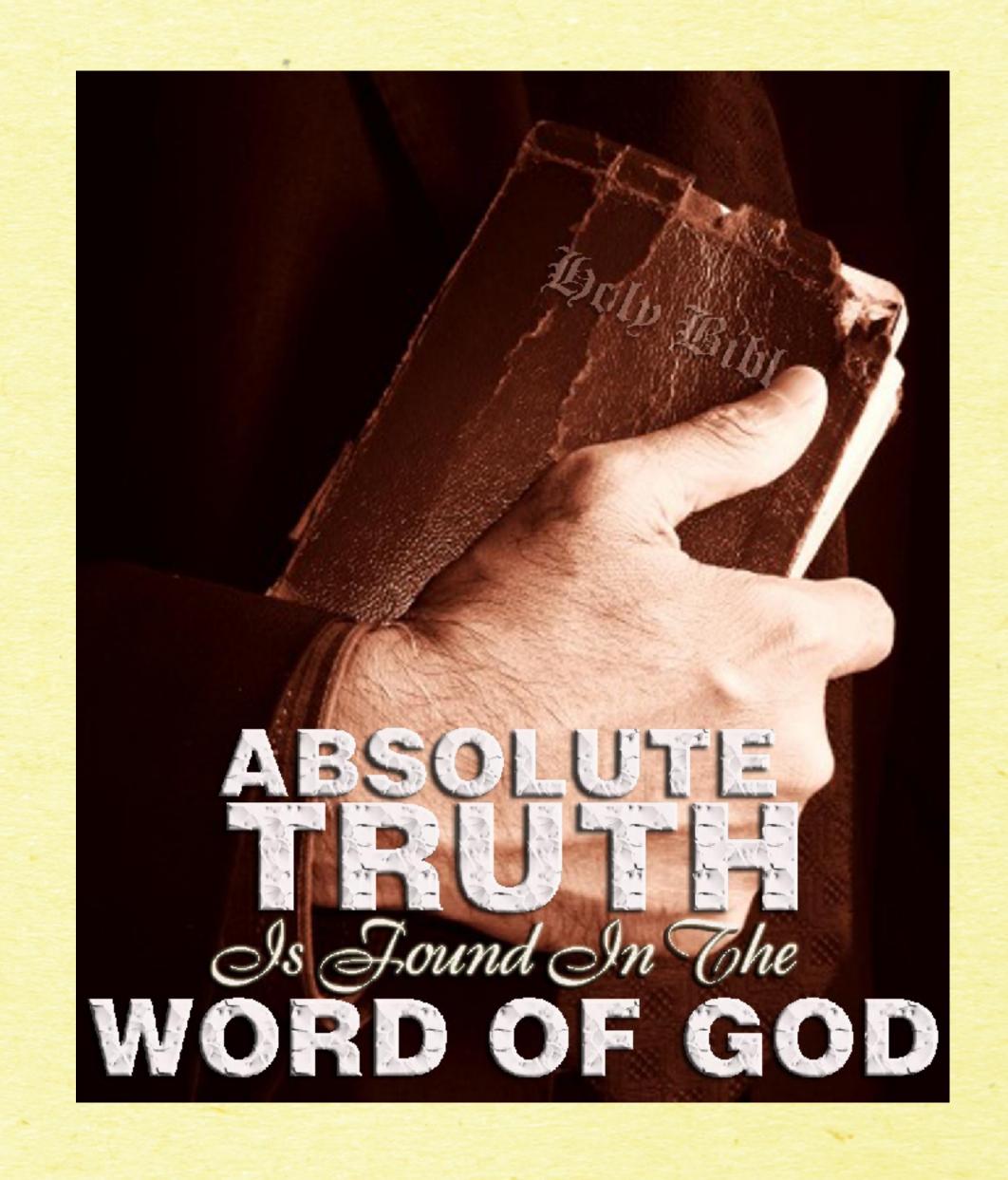


- As believers, we must believe on the death, burial, and resurrection of Jesus with our all hearts. Luke 8:12 Those by the way side are they that hear; then cometh the devil, and taketh away the word out of their hearts, lest they should believe and be saved.
- We can believe the Bible to be true with our minds, but keep our own way in our hearts. This causes us to waver and be unstable in our behavior. James 1:8 A double minded man is unstable in all his ways.
- When a person claims Christ without following His written word, sin will rule their life. Matt. 6:24 No man can serve two masters: for either he will hate the one, and love the other; or else he will hold to the one, and despise the other. Ye cannot serve God and mammon.



- A true believer conforms to what they believe in their hearts. If you truly believe in Christ, you will follow Him and reject the world's way. John 8:31 Then said Jesus to those Jews which believed on him, If ye continue in my word, then are ye my disciples indeed
- The world promotes the lust of the flesh, the lust of the eye, and the pride of life. These actions are of the world and not of Christ. 1John 2:16 For all that is in the world, the lust of the flesh, and the lust of the eyes, and the pride of life, is not of the Father, but is of the world.
- Christ makes us new creations and changes our former desires. When we accept Him, we turn away from the world and the world's views on things. Rom. 12:2 And be not conformed to this world: but be ye transformed by the renewing of your mind, that ye may prove what is that good, and acceptable, and perfect, will of God.

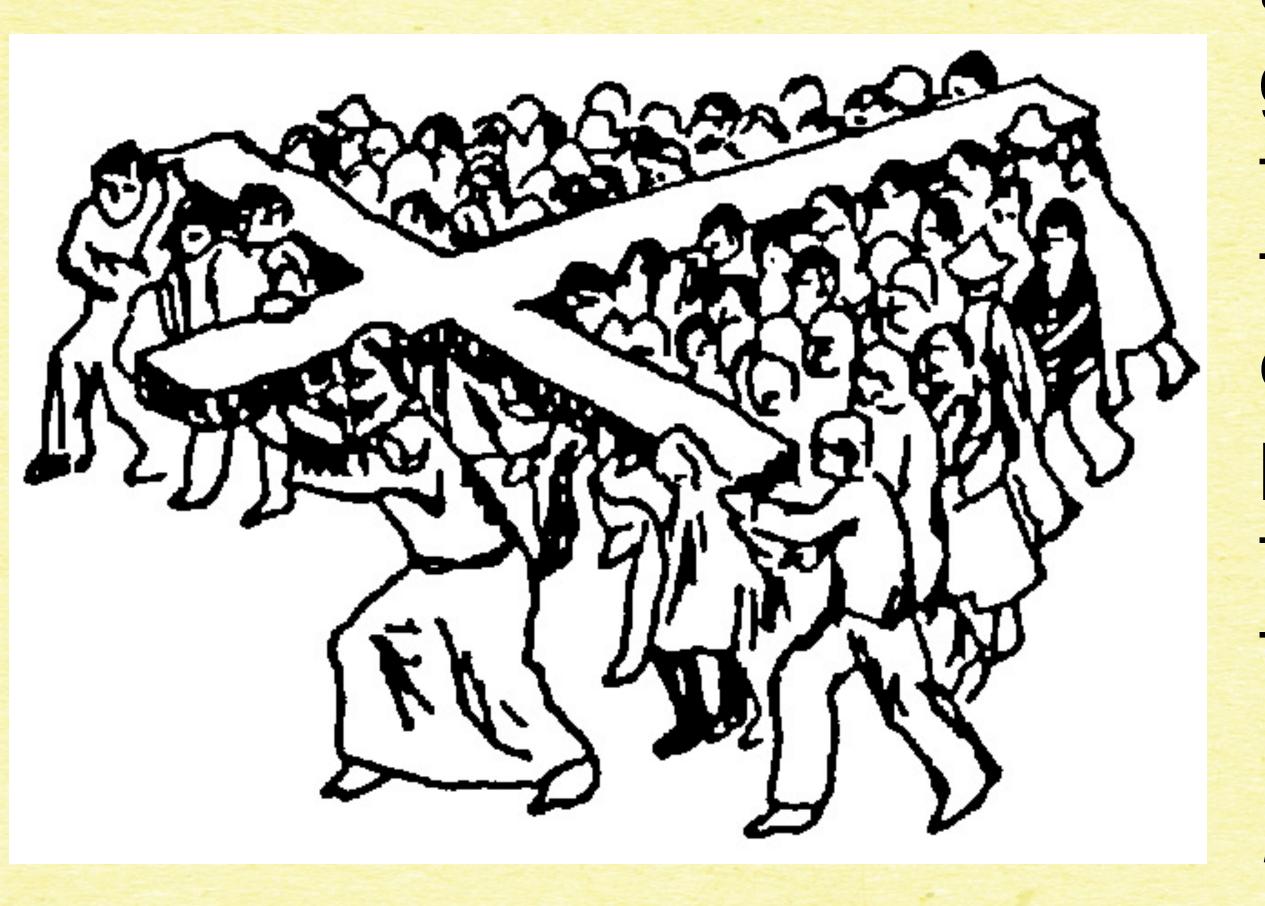


Matt. 16:24 Then said Jesus unto his disciples, If any man will come after me, let him deny himself, and take up his cross, and follow me.



To deny oneself means that what we reject what we want for Christ's sake. We turn away from anything that does not line up with His Word. No matter how strong our desire, we must forsake it so that our lives can be aligned with Christ. Gal. 2:20 I am crucified with Christ: nevertheless I live; yet not I, but Christ liveth in me: and the life which I now live in the flesh I live by the faith of the Son of God, who loved me, and gave himself for me.





To take up our cross means that we are crucified with Christ and have given up our lives for His. We choose to accept the pain of going against the world, the opinions of men, and even our own lustful desires. The pain of being corrected, conforming to truth, and being admonished, is the cross that we chose to bear. 1Pet. 4:1 Forasmuch then as Christ hath suffered for us in the flesh, arm yourselves likewise with the same mind: for he that hath suffered in the flesh hath ceased from sin;

To follow Christ is to believe He is the Word and what He says is true. The Bible is our infallible instruction manual. If we doubt His Word, we cannot follow Him. If we doubt who He says He is, then we cannot follow Him. If we doubt His way and trust our own way, then we cannot follow Him. John 10:27 My sheep hear my voice, and I know them, and they follow me:





Resurrection Sunday is an exciting Sunday because we usually get to see people that we haven't seen in a while. The church is usually filled with people that claim to believe that Jesus rose from the dead. But how many of us really believe that He is the Christ? To believe that Jesus is the risen savior means that we believe He died for our sins and is our Lord. If He is Lord, then wouldn't that make us His followers? If we are His followers, then shouldn't we be following Him? Can we be His followers and follow after our own way? Can we love the world and love Him? Can we truly commune with Christ and doubt the validity of the Bible?

There is no faith without works. If we have faith in Christ, then our works will prove it. If we believe on Him, then we accept His way and reject our own way. To be in Christ and be a new creation means that we deny ourselves, take up our cross, and follow His way!

2Cor. 5:17 Therefore if any man be in Christ, he is a new creature: old things are passed away; behold, all things are become new.

- 1Cor. 11:23 For I have received of the Lord that which also I delivered unto you, That the Lord Jesus the same night in which he was betrayed took bread:
- 1Cor. 11:24 And when he had given thanks, he brake it, and said, Take, eat: this is my body, which is broken for you: this do in remembrance of me.
- 1Cor. 11:25 After the same manner also he took the cup, when he had supped, saying, This cup is the new testament in my blood: this do ye, as oft as ye drink it, in remembrance of me.
- 1Cor. 11:26 For as often as ye eat this bread, and drink this cup, ye do shew the Lord's death till he come.
- 1Cor. 11:27 Wherefore whosoever shall eat this bread, and drink this cup of the Lord, unworthily, shall be guilty of the body and blood of the Lord.
- 1Cor. 11:28 But let a man examine himself, and so let him eat of that bread, and drink of that cup.
- 1Cor. 11:29 For he that eateth and drinketh unworthily, eateth and drinketh damnation to himself, not discerning the Lord's body.
- 1Cor. 11:30 For this cause many are weak and sickly among you, and many sleep.
- 1Cor. 11:31 For if we would judge ourselves, we should not be judged.
- 1Cor. 11:32 But when we are judged, we are chastened of the Lord, that we should not be condemned with the world.