



A Real-Life Christian

Matthew 16:21-28

I. Realize how real disciples think (vs. 21-23)

A. Real disciples think about the Messiah's mission.

dei- it is necessary

- The Messiah **must** go to Jerusalem.
- The Messiah **must** suffer (John 20:28, 26:28).
- The Messiah **must** die.
- The Messiah **must** rise.

B. Real disciples think about the Messiah's message.

- Peter took Jesus aside (v. 22a).
- Peter rebuked Jesus (v. 22ab).—*Far be it from you Lord!*
- Jesus turned to Peter (v. 23).
- Jesus rebuked Peter (v. 23).

A real disciple of Jesus Christ is God-minded!

II. Realize how real disciples live (v. 24).

A. Real disciples live with self-denial. —*let him deny himself*

- Our natural tendency is to love self!
- Our example of self-denial is Jesus (Phi. 2:3-11)

REAL LIFE

- True self-denial is putting God and His kingdom first!
- B. Real disciples live with self-sacrifice. –*and take up his cross*
- True discipleship is a life of potential martyrdom.
 - True discipleship is willing to sacrifice daily.
- C. Real disciples live with self-commitment. –*and follow me*
- “There is no crossless obedience to Christ!—John MacArthur*

III. Realize how real disciples evaluate life (vs. 25-28)

- A. Real disciples realize that earthly things don't matter.
- Those who pursue themselves will lose themselves.*
- B. Real disciples realize that heavenly things do matter.
- My greatest need is not my happiness; my greatest need is God!*

*“Must Jesus bear the cross alone,
and all the world go free?
Yes, there's a cross for everyone,
and there's a cross for me.”*