



Symbols of Rejection

Message 2

J.C. Thompson

March 21, 2021

► Outline

Then Jesus said to His disciples, "If any of you wants to be My follower, you must turn from your selfish ways, take up your cross, and follow Me."

Matthew 16:24 (NLT)

When I reject Christ, I reject His...

1. _____.
(Matthew 27:32-37. C/R: Acts 2:36; Romans 10:9)

2. Sacrificial _____.
(Matthew 27:39-40. C/R: John 20:25-28)

3. _____.
(Matthew 10:28; 27:41-43. Matthew 16:25-26; John 16:33;
1 Peter 2:23)

Answers: 1. Divinity 2. death 3. Discipleship

Resource Information: Scripture quotations marked (NLT) are taken from the *Holy Bible*, New Living Translation, copyright © 1996, 2004, 2015 by Tyndale House Foundation. Used by permission of Tyndale House Publishers, a Division of Tyndale House Ministries, Carol Stream, Illinois 60188. All rights reserved. C/R refers to a 'cross reference.' Today's outline and discussion guide are available through the Brookwood Church app.



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► Discussion Guide

Use this guide by yourself or with friends to pursue a deeper relationship with Jesus. To connect with others, visit brookwoodchurch.org/adults.

Conversation Starter

What was the last really difficult thing you had to do?

Begin Your Study with Prayer

Pray for the Holy Spirit to reveal truth and wisdom as you work through this week's teaching.

Bible Study and Group Discussion

Read [Matthew 27:32-44](#).

For a more detailed description of Jesus' crucifixion, read [Luke 23:26-43](#).

1. Who were the different groups of people who rejected Jesus?
2. List various ways they expressed rejection.
3. What misunderstandings did they have about Jesus?
4. Have you ever known anyone (personally) who rejected Jesus or Christianity with a lot of anger? How did you respond?
5. Describe a time you experienced God's goodness even though you didn't deserve it.
6. Jesus didn't retaliate. What does that tell you about Him? See also [Mark 10:41-45](#); [Philippians 2:6-8](#).
7. If Jesus' death and resurrection provide forgiveness of sin and the hope of new life, why do so many people reject Christianity?

8. Read [Matthew 16:24](#). What did Jesus mean when He said, *Take up your cross and follow Me*?
9. How does God want you to respond to this week's lesson?

Digging Deeper

Study [1 Peter 2:18-25](#). Write down your responses to the following questions (because writing helps us remember). How does this passage describe God? Which part of this passage seems most significant to you right now? How is God calling you to respond?

Spiritual Practice

Spiritual Practices put us in a place to experience God and grow in faith. These practices are meant to be more than one-time actions, becoming a natural part of our lives.

On a notecard, write *God is good*. Tape that on your mirror or dashboard. Every morning this week, ask God to show you His goodness.

Memory Verse

Then Jesus said to His disciples, "If any of you wants to be My follower, you must turn from your selfish ways, take up your cross, and follow Me."

[Matthew 16:24 \(NLT\)](#)

Daily Reading

Day 1: [1 Peter 2:18-25](#)

Day 4: [Psalm 22:1-5](#)

Day 2: [Mark 10:41-45](#)

Day 5: [Acts 2:22-28](#)

Day 3: [Philippians 2:6-8](#)

Prepare for Next Sunday

Sunday, March 28, we'll continue the series *Easter Artifacts* with a message about the symbols of relief. Read [Matthew 27:45-49](#) to prepare.



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