

**“Following Jesus”**  
*Luke 22:63 – Luke 23:12*  
Rev. Min J. Chung  
(Sunday Service, January 27, 2013)

**Luke 22:63 – Luke 23:12**

“63 The men who were guarding Jesus began mocking and beating him. 64 They blindfolded him and demanded, “Prophecy! Who hit you?” 65 And they said many other insulting things to him. 66 At daybreak the council of the elders of the people, both the chief priests and the teachers of the law, met together, and Jesus was led before them. 67 “If you are the Messiah,” they said, “tell us.” Jesus answered, “If I tell you, you will not believe me, 68 and if I asked you, you would not answer. 69 But from now on, the Son of Man will be seated at the right hand of the mighty God.” 70 They all asked, “Are you then the Son of God?” He replied, “You say that I am.” 71 Then they said, “Why do we need any more testimony? We have heard it from his own lips.” 23 Then the whole assembly rose and led him off to Pilate. 2 And they began to accuse him, saying, “We have found this man subverting our nation. He opposes payment of taxes to Caesar and claims to be Messiah, a king.” 3 So Pilate asked Jesus, “Are you the king of the Jews?” “You have said so,” Jesus replied. 4 Then Pilate announced to the chief priests and the crowd, “I find no basis for a charge against this man.” 5 But they insisted, “He stirs up the people all over Judea by his teaching. He started in Galilee and has come all the way here.” 6 On hearing this, Pilate asked if the man was a Galilean. 7 When he learned that Jesus was under Herod’s jurisdiction, he sent him to Herod, who was also in Jerusalem at that time. 8 When Herod saw Jesus, he was greatly pleased, because for a long time he had been wanting to see him. From what he had heard about him, he hoped to see him perform a sign of some sort. 9 He plied him with many questions, but Jesus gave him no answer. 10 The chief priests and the teachers of the law were standing there, vehemently accusing him. 11 Then Herod and his soldiers ridiculed and mocked him. Dressing him in an elegant robe, they sent him back to Pilate. 12 That day Herod and Pilate became friends—before this they had been enemies.”

**Introduction**

We are going through the Gospel of Luke, it’s the 7<sup>th</sup> year, but we’ll finish it. I’ve divided the sections nicely, so unless something happens, we will try to finish this semester.

Basically Gospel of Luke, we talked about last week, Luke’s careful investigation as he follows the trails of Jesus from his childhood. Galilee way to Jerusalem, Jerusalem to cross, resurrection, to his ascension. Doctor Luke follows the trails of Jesus and carefully investigates everything to show whatever people wrote about Jesus was true. So, this is the last few chapters of the trail of Jesus so we are following Jesus together as we study the gospel. In this passage Jesus is going through trials and we’re going to see that God, Jesus second person of trinity, God is in the hands of angry sinners. So we must follow Jesus as Jesus is going through these trials. We must follow Jesus. I think this verse is

one of the main verses of the gospel of Luke, one of my favorite verses. Every time it's 9:23 AM or PM, I remember this verse, "Then he said to them all: "Whoever wants to be my disciple must deny themselves and take up their cross daily and follow me." I believe this is one of the main verses of the whole Gospel of Luke. Positively speaking we must deny ourselves to carry the cross and follow Jesus daily, but negatively speaking we can kind of deny Jesus moment by moment, same reasons that this passage, divided into 4 sections and each section has group of people denying Jesus, through that we're going to receive the revelation of Jesus. Four sections picturing who Jesus is, but each section denying Jesus out of sinful nature and even though we're in Jesus Christ, we still have sinful nature inside of us so daily we can deny Jesus for the same reason or we can repent and be forgiven and continue to follow Jesus. So we must see, learn lessons why they denied Jesus so we can repent right away. "Lord give me strength to follow you, so that we can follow Jesus Christ." you can always be forgiven, but also we must fight daily not to deny Jesus, but to faithfully follow Jesus Christ, so let's get to work here.

As we will look about four types of people that denied Jesus we will learn lessons ways we can less deny Jesus, temporarily, daily, sin, making mistakes in our lives, and alleviate some sins from following Jesus Christ at least temporarily.

## **I. Jesus is the Blind Prophet [22:63-65]**

### **A. Why the soldiers denied Jesus – pleasure**

We see in this passage soldiers were denying Jesus. Why were they denying Jesus? I believe they were searching for some sort of pleasure here, perhaps after the interview, while the Jewish leaders were waiting the Jewish temple guards who help Jesus in custody decided to have some fun in the prison. This is kind of boring to take your prisoner and do nothing, so they decided to have fun with Jesus. Many of them mocked Jesus, perhaps imitating because this was the most interesting prisoner that they ever had. Many mocked, perhaps imitating his teaching style, mimicking him by repeating some of the claims with an accent making fun of some of the things he had said, which undoubtedly misconstrued. Other gospels said they hit him with bare knuckles. They punched and slapped, slugged Jesus left and right and spit on his face. Perhaps some commentators speculate perhaps they were having a spitting contest who could possibly hit closest to his lips. They made up a game of blind man bluff, blind folding Jesus, hitting him in the face asking him, "prophesize, who hit you?" I was thinking about this passage what if Jesus suddenly started to name the people, because He knows. "Yeah I know you, I know your mom, I know your dad."

Luke adds they were saying many other things against him, blasphemy, their mad pursuit of fun and pleasure caused them to do terrible things to the spotless son. Their pleasure was giving Jesus the pain. Most of us picturing this scene makes us feel nauseated. Our first reaction is to draw back in horror and think, "how could anyone treat any other human, let alone the Lord Jesus, like that?" We need to lay aside indignation and bring forth repentance, because we have all hit our dear

savior in the face with our sin. It's because of our sin he endured the abuse of these sinners and went willingly to the cross. It's because of our sin he's going through this. So he's going through this because of all of our sins, because of your sins, because of my sins. In another sense, this is what I am doing to Jesus. Why is he going through this? Because of my sins, I am doing this to him. Their pleasure was giving Jesus pain. Just remember according to the principle of justification, on that cross Jesus suffered as you. Jesus died for you, but Jesus is suffering as you. All of your sins, he is going through the suffering. There is no cheap grace in some sense, because some one has to pay for sins, pay for the receivers, but never for the giver. I thought about it like this, like boxing or MMA, when you punch somebody there is pleasure in punching somebody. You may not have experienced that, but when you're punching somebody there is pleasure, satisfaction. But your pleasure is causing somebody pain. When I watch MMA, the winners destroy them. that's exactly what happens when we sin. Sin has pleasure, doesn't it? When we sin, there's deep pleasure at least at that moment, maybe afterwards your guilty, but there is incredible pleasure in sin. That pleasure equates the pain of Jesus. That's like we're slapping, punching, poking, whatever Jesus. Next time you sin, sure you can be forgiven, but next time you sin, enjoying the pleasure of your sin equates the agony and pain of Jesus. The degree of your pleasure of your sin equates the degree of the pain of the son. We are the ones that are ones that are slapping, we are spitting on him, we are slapping him for our pleasure and that pleasure of sin equates the pain of Jesus Christ. WE must remember that. Do not receive cheap grace, it's free for the receivers, but it's blood for the giver. That's why loving Christ helps us overcome sin. If we love Christ, hatred of sin follows. Hatred of sin that gives pain, love for Christ that gives us pleasure. Soldiers are denying Christ because of pleasure and so do we so many times in our lives.

### **B. Jesus is the blind prophet – He helps us to see [63-65]**

The men who were guarding Jesus blind folded him and said, "Prophesize! Who hit you?" you have to understand Jesus' blind foldedness by these soldiers...son of God blindfolded by little soldiers just a symbol of Jesus' blindness was voluntary blindness. Part of his incarnation, God, second person of trinity, while remaining as God becoming one of us, becoming human being, self – imposed limitation, living everyday even though he has every capability and ability of God, he's living as human being. Self - imposed limitation, and there he's blinded by these soldiers. He could've called ten thousand angels and destroyed not only these soldiers, but the Earth, but he's blinded by these soldiers, a voluntary blindness. Love for us. To identify with us, to become one of us so that he can live as us and die as us. Live as us for our righteousness and die as us for cancelation of sins. Jesus' blindness was voluntary blindness. Jesus was the blind prophet, he was blinded but seeing the eternity, seeing the infinity even in his voluntary blindness, he's seeing the redemption of mankind. He's thinking of you right now, He's thinking of you in John 17, as he prays we see that he was praying for us as well. He was praying for his disciples, he was praying for all

those people through their message and he was praying for us. We see the message from God to give to people, but Jesus as he prophesized, Jesus says, "I am the fulfillment of all the prophesies. I don't just give prophesies, I AM the fulfillment of the prophesies." These people were hitting, spitting, persecuting Jesus. The great irony was their abuse fulfilled Jesus born prophetic words. Chapter 18:32, he will be handed over to the Gentiles and they will mock him, insult him, spit on him, slug him, and kill him. By then doing this, the fulfillment of the prophesy that Jesus was prophesized. Jesus is saying I am the personification of prophesies. And all the prophets ever existed that were sent from God in the Old testament, they were prophesizing about me. All true prophesies are about me. If we listen and see this blind prophet, we will see God. This blind prophet is making us see God and eternity. Praise the Lord. Amen?

## **II. Jesus is the Impending Judge [22:63-71]**

It shows chief priests and the teachers of the law and the elders in this passage, the council of the assembly of the elders.

### **A. Why the chief priests and teachers of the law denied Jesus – position and possessions**

When you say council of assembly of elders, it's synonym from Sanhedrin. This is a group of people that were trying to persecute Jesus, but who were they. Many of them were Pharisees, a part of Sanhedrin a council of elders. This part of third trial is official trial before Sanhedrin. What as Sanhedrin? It was the supreme court of Judaism, it was the highest court at the time. It had 3 chambers composed of 23 chiefs, 23 scribes, and 23 elders, total 69 and 3 presiders, total of 71. Highest people of Judaism in Israel. 23 priests represented religious element, 23 teachers of the law represented legal element and 23 elders represented the democratic aspect. So these were the highest people of the land from Israel. So they had the position, but along with positions there came possessions. They had money, so many ways to get money.

Luke 16:14, "The Pharisees, who loved money, heard all this and were sneering at Jesus."

Luke 11:39, "Then the Lord said to him, "Now then, you Pharisees clean the outside of the cup and dish, but inside you are full of greed and wickedness."

Full of greed. And Jesus the king of the Jew was a serious threat to their positions, therefore possessions. We can easily see the correlation to us. Our positions, our status, our pride, our face, it costs us to sin, as well as our possessions, things we have: money, our milk in the refrigerator, when we lose things we feel upset, angry, and sad. We can easily correlate this to us, sin of possessions. How many people do I see, two roommates, two family members, two members of the church, fight and divide everything. Power struggle in the church, jealousy, anger, all these divisions and fights in our jobs, we try to put others down. Sins of positions and sins of possessions. I have seen families divide because of money,

inheritance, I'm sorry if some of your parents are involved in that, I'm not judging them, but I'm just pointing the heart that we have inside of us, our sinful natures, our sinful desires. How we sin and deny Jesus and slap Jesus, because of our possessions and positions. We are spitting on Christ, slapping Jesus because of our sins.

## **B. Jesus is the impending judge – He will judge us**

Verses 66 through 71 mentions three names of Jesus.

### **1. The Christ**

People think Christ was Jesus' last name, "Jesus Christ," like Pastor Min Chung. Christ wasn't his last name, Christ was his title. Christ basically means the anointed one, he was the anointed one. It's a Greek that is the same one as the Hebrew one, "Messiah". Messiah, Christ, anointed one, same thing. People who were anointed in the Old Testament were the people that were main characters, prophets, priests, and kings, who pictured Jesus. But Jesus was the Messiah, son of David who was coming. All the things in the Old Testament says as people are struggling with sin and exile because of sin, there is physically deliverance, they said, "there's somebody who is going to come, there's a hero that's coming, the one." The deliverer, the savior is going to come, that's Jesus Christ. The Christ is the Hero in history, the one.

### **2. Son of Man**

Son of man has two meanings in Gospel of Luke, it is one sense is talking about fulfillment of prophesy, Daniel 7:13-14, "In my vision at night I looked, and there before me was one like a son of man, coming with the clouds of heaven. He approached the Ancient of Days and was led into his presence. He was given authority, glory and sovereign power; all nations and peoples of every language worshiped him. His dominion is an everlasting dominion that will not pass away, and his kingdom is one that will never be destroyed." It's a phrase, constantly New Testament writers are referring to Jesus Christ as son of man is fulfillment of this prophesy. A son of man coming with a cloud of Heaven he will approach the ancient of David was lead into presence, look at his authority. Verse 14. So there's that aspect of son of man with authority, but when you look at Gospel of Luke, son of man here is talking about this man with authority became one of us, son of man, human being. Intentionally, the man, was constantly used in Gospel of Luke, and he goes, Jesus Christ is son of man, he became one of us so that he can live as us in his righteousness so that his righteousness will be ours when we put our faith in him because we are in Jesus Christ and when we put our faith in him he died as the son on the cross so that all of our sins will go onto him. So he's this person of authority became one of us so that we can identify with us, so not just his authority but his incarnation. I believe that the son of man has those two aspects, but that incarnation aspect, weak self – imposed limitation human

being is mainly about his first coming emphasis. He became one of us, died as one of us, but this picture of Daniel chapter 7, son of man who is coming for the second time. He's going to come with authority and sovereign power, he's going to rule, he's going to judge. The Sanhedrin, those that are judging Jesus now will see him as their eternal judge. He's going to sit at the right hand of God, he's going to come with clouds.

### **3. Son of God**

Son of God according to Bible, God the son, God the father, God the Holy Spirit, not necessarily lower being, but equal being, but son has same DNA as father, same components, same nature. So son of God means he's God himself, equality with God, but distinct from the Father because He's son of God, he's not the father. So Jesus Christ was equal, but distinct in person so God himself. Not God the Father, but God the Son. He's talking about, Jesus Christ was God. Jesus demonstrated incredible mastery at his religious trial before Sanhedrin. He said in effect, "if you're going to kill me, you're going to kill me for who I am. I am the messiah, I am son of God, the son of man." If you put it together, Jesus Christ, God himself became one of us to die on our behalf to live for us, to die for us, is the Christ, the anointed one who's going to save us and one day when he comes back as the son of man mentioned in Daniel chapter 7 he's going to judge and rule the world. You may live for your position, you may live for your possessions, but everything will be evaluated every moment, your money, your time, your moment, your life are under his judgment. And our attitudes needs to be in submission to the Lord, we always live for somebody's approval, we either live for approval of other human beings, or sometimes we live in approval of ourselves. Our condemnation of ourselves, our guilt, we condemn ourselves, we judge ourselves, but we really need to worry about judgment of Jesus Christ. That's the only thing we should really worry about. Our attitude has to be of submission to Christ. And I was thinking about Mary, Mary of the Bible, the virgin birth, in manger, who became pregnant. After hearing about the pre-marital pregnancy Mary, about the virgin birth, she had Jesus in the womb by the Holy Spirit, meaning other people might not see it like that, "virgin birth.." her life was basically ruined in Jewish culture. This is what she said knowing of that, this teenage girl, in purity of her heart, "I am the Lord's servant." She says, "May be to me as you have said." Basically she is saying I am your servant, Jesus I am your servant. My name, my marriage, my family, my future, my life, my body, my womb, it's yours. And I pray that we'll give our lives to judge our savior, our king, son of man.

### **III. Jesus is the Reigning King [23:1-7]**

Here the main character who denies Jesus is famous one who is in the Apostles Creed. We recite the Apostles Creed many times in the churches, "who suffered under Pontis Pilate," I wonder if he ever knew he'd be this famous, or infamous. If you look at these seven verses, why did Pilate deny Jesus?

## **A. Why Pilate denied Jesus – popularity/praise**

There were six trials of Jesus.

### **The Six Trials**

#### **1. The trial before Annas**

who was ex-high priest, he really had the power

#### **2. The trial before Caiaphas**

who was present high priest, but he was like a puppet, son – in –law of Annas.

#### **3. The trial before Sanhedrin**

This is what we studied, connect second and third trial together.

#### **4. The trial before Pontus Pilate**

We are going to briefly see the fourth trial in this passage

#### **5. The trial before Herod**

we are going to see a little of this trial in next point

#### **6. The second trial before Pilate**

another trial written because Pilate sends Jesus to Herod, but Herod sends Jesus back to Pilate.

Pilate was an interesting individual, he was not a successful politician, under him many political upheavals and insurrection because obviously he was not a good ruler, not a good leader, including one of Barabbas, we're going to talk about this next time I preach. He obviously had no conviction, no backbone. He was a political leader with no conviction, no backbone. Later history reports high probability he committed suicide. Through this holy incident, Pilate believes Jesus is innocent. Three times he admitted he could no longer find any charge against him, but he keeps denying his responsibility. Why? Because he doesn't want to be disliked by people. When you look at first few verses here, the whole assembly, the Sanhedrin brought Jesus to Pilate. Why? Because only Romans had rights to execute Jews, so Sanhedrin had to bring Jesus to Pilate. In verse two the Jews that Jesus to Pilate accusing him of couple things out of context, he told them not to pay tax to Caesar, claimed the kingship, both of course false accusation. It was the people that said he was a king, not he himself. And also one time when people asked about tax, he said "Pay what is Caesar to Caesar and what is God to God." He didn't tell them not to pay tax to Caesar, it was false accusation, but somehow they had to find reason to kill him so their falsely accusing him. So Pilate in verse 3 asks, "are you the king of Jews or are you the king of Rome," basically that is what

he is saying. If he says he is the king of Jews, there is nothing wrong about him from Pilate's perspective. If he says, "I am the emperor of Rome," then he has to kill him. He basically says, "are you the king of the Jews" in verse three, he's trying to find out if your having treason against the Jews or the Romans. Jesus says, "yes I am king of the Jews." That's why Pilate in verse 4 claims no charge against Jesus. To him under his law he was innocent. In verse 5, Israelites, people of Sanhedrin, Jews say, "he is the problem" and then now Pilate is in dilemma. Unpopular from people, but he is innocent, but he heard that little phrase, "he is from Galilee," then let's send him to Herod. He's trying to give up the responsibility. So verse 7 that's why he sends him to Herod. Jewish man of Jewish govern in charge of Galilee. We can easily see the correlation of Pilate and us. Popularity, no backbone, being unfaithful to his calling, not doing the right thing, we can identify with that in so many ways. Fear of men, fear of other people, fear of close people, fear of our own selves, approval of ourselves. Unless we fight and repent it will hinder our obedience to God and doing the right thing and fulfilling our calling because that's what Pilate was doing because of fear of men. He wanted to be popular, he wanted praise of men. It hindered him. Doing the right thing and fulfilling his calling, bucking the responsibility.

Edmund Burke says, "When the leaders choose to make themselves bidders at an auction of popularity, their talents, in the construction of the state, will be of no service. They will become flatterers instead of legislators; the instruments, not the guides, of the people."

What he is saying is if you start to listen to people, if you live for the popularity, you are not leading them, but they are leading you. Leaders got to have backbone. Parents got to have backbone. Pastors got to have backbone. National leaders got to have backbone. That is what's part of our sin.

**B. Jesus is the reigning king – He alone deserves all of the praise**

This passage says that Jesus claims he is the King of the Jews, he's talking about "I am the fulfillment of the Old Testament," because he is to Israelites, "your king is coming," I am more than that, I am king of the Spiritual, of the new Israel that consists of Jews and Gentiles. His kingdom is different than the physical one, different then the one that Pilate is talking about, the one that Herod is talking about, the one that Jews and Romans are talking about. His kingdom of Jesus as King, his reign is different then that of the world. The kingdom of the world is governed by laws and constitutions, but the kingdom of God is governed by truth in our minds and our hearts. In the earthly kingdom we have to bow our knees and submit our bodies, but we can fake it. But in the spiritual kingdom we must submit our hearts, the kingdom of Jesus is much greater than the kingdom of the world. The kingdom of the world at

most can only become one nation, a couple of nations, but the kingdom of Jesus, people from every tribe, every tongue and nations will come to worship. Jesus is much longer and most earthly king will only last 90 years and kingdoms lasts few hundred years, Jesus the king of the universe will be king for all eternity. Kingdom of Jesus is much more historical because an earthly kingdom only lasts one or a couple generations, a few at most, but Jesus, the kingdom of Jesus is for all generations for all eternity. Jesus is saying I am not after your life, but after your destiny, after your eternity. I am the king of the universe, king of your heart. In response of this we must choose to submit giving our allegiance to him.

I was looking at this picture, I like this picture. For those of you who are just listening to this tape, Ruler is saying to the rock, "you rock," rock is saying to the ruler, "you rule." I believe that is what Jesus is like, Jesus rocks and Jesus rules. He alone deserves all the praise and honor and glory.

#### **IV. Jesus is the Miracle Worker [23:8-12]**

Here the one who denies Jesus is Herod.

##### **A. Why Herod denied Jesus – power**

Little bit about Herod, only Luke includes the story of Jesus being shunted off to Herod Antipas. There are many Herods, all the Herods in the Bible are bad ones. This one is really really bad. Herod Antipas, son of Herod the great who had slaughtered the infants of Bethlehem. Antipas, Herod the Antipas ruled over Galilee 4 BC to AD 39. This is the Herod who John the Baptist had reproved because he had dumped his first wife and married his brother's wife, Herodias, she hated John the Baptist because John the Baptist pointed it out and told Herod to repent and she kept a grudge. Herod put John in prison but also feared John knowing him to be a righteous man. He listened to John and often listened to him talk about spiritual matters that's written in Mark 6:20. Then there came the fateful day where Herod got drunk at his birthday party and rashfully promised his daughter, Herodias, in front of half the kingdom because he enjoyed her sensual dancing. She asked for John's head, Herodias went to her mom, "what should I ask for?" What a mom asks for John the Baptist's head on a platter. That's not good momming. So she asked for John's head on a platter and Herod reluctantly complied, because he still had fear, so not to lose his face before the dinner guests because he promised before people. After this when Herod heard of Jesus teaching miracles, he was haunted by his guilt, thinking that John had risen from the dead. Jesus called Herod a fox, according to Luke 13:32, referring to his crafty powers, Herod had wanted to see Jesus for long time because he was hoping to see some sign performed by miracles. Why did Herod deny Jesus? He was so curious before, why did he want to see miracles performed by Jesus. I don't think he wanted to see miracles for

entertainment, remember he was so curious about John and his preaching, when John the Baptist preached, he was a powerful preacher, so many Jews came out repenting their sins before God and they say, a couple hundred people came out to Jordan River to be baptized. He heard of his powerful preaching and I believe when he heard of the powerful miracle of Jesus, he was curious and interested in his powers. Of course John's powerful message was repent, John's personal message was kingdom of heaven is near and John also told Herod to repent his sins of taking brother's wife. Here's the thing, look at how interested Herod was, this is such a sad thing. Look at Mark 6:19-20. So Herodias nursed a grudge against a judge and wanted to kill him and look at what Herod was like because Herod feared John and protected him knowing for him to be a righteous and holy man, when Herod heard John, he was greatly puzzled, he liked to listen to him. Here's the sad thing, and now he's with Jesus, he's curious of his power, his miracles, but now with Jesus it does not seem like he has any spiritual interest. I think it's sad for both Pilate and Herod, they had incredible chance to hear the gospel from Jesus face to face. They had time to interview Jesus. Such an interview benefits us if we respond with repentance. Pilate and Herod had the chance of a lifetime to become friends with Jesus, followers of Jesus, instead they rejected and denied Jesus and became friends with each other. And according to this passage Jesus was silent and this is interesting because even when he was talking to even Pilate he spoke, he prophesized. When we conversed with Judas he spoke to him, but this time he was silent. I believe Herod's conscience was so stifling, his heart was so hard, it was useless to speak. We can easily see correlate to our hearts. If you're not a believer, believe it or not statistics say 30% of people involved in CFC are not Christians. We have over 1000 people involved with church, 30% are not Christians. There are many of you who are not Christians in this place and somehow God has led you to friendship, incredible grace you are coming to CFC, this is the moment, this may be the chance you need to receive Jesus Christ as your Lord and savior in your heart. If you're a believer don't just be curious in our power of influence like Herod, our works, whatever we do are useless without power, without spiritual power. There is no power without repentance. Herod wanted power, but no repentance. There is no power without repentance. You need to repent, you need to go to God and repent, ask for grace and mercy and forgiveness and hatred of sin, love for Christ and your heart will be burning for love for Christ and when you do things out of that love, now you will influence people. Not only out of the body, but hearts for eternity. You can influence people for eternity.

#### **B. Jesus is the miracle worker – He will redeem the world**

Jesus will, not at this moment, but Jesus is the miracle worker, he will redeem the world. Think about what is the greatest miracle. Something appear, casting out demons, raising the dead, probably resurrection of life, right? Greatest miracle is the resurrection, not only of body, but

resurrection of ourselves, our hearts, others, dead hearts coming alive. Changing of dead hearts coming alive to love Christ. Miracle, physical resurrection is picture of what Jesus will do for whole eternity of people. Miracle of resurrection and redemption of universe. Jesus will raise himself up from the dead, Jesus will raise all the people from death, but that kind of resurrection is simple to Jesus, not only simple but only the beginning of Jesus showing his power because resurrection of body is beginning of rest of humanity he will redeem. Be more and more like Jesus, that's whole Gospel of Luke. First Adam fail, but second Adam, Jesus Christ comes and he's going to perform miracle of history of mankind. Redemptive history, redemption of the universe. He's doing that for us.

Here's a happy verse, Luke 9:23, "Then he said to them all: "Whoever wants to be my disciple must deny themselves and take up their cross daily and follow me." We need to do this.

Here's a sad verse, Luke 23:12, "That day Herod and Pilate became friends—before this they had been enemies." Before that, they were enemies. I thought this this is so funny because two people might not know or like each other, but when they start to dislike same person they start to begin person. When you gossip, best way to make friends.

We need to follow Jesus Christ. Many times it's a lonely road. As I was preparing to preach this message, Following Jesus Daily, dawned on me. This whole passage, 21 verses in this passage, there's not a single person, not one person in this passage, 21 verses that supported Jesus. Every single human being that is mentioned in these 21 verses is against Jesus, everyone is against Jesus and no one was for him. It's like that when we follow Jesus. Sometimes it feels like we're all alone. So it is in our trials and our lives we follow Jesus daily. Sometimes we just feel so alone. Those are the times we need to look, not look around, but look up because in this passage it doesn't mention, but when we look at whole of Gospel of Luke, in this passage it seems like he's alone, but God the father, God the spirit, always with Jesus. Same thing in our lives. Our God is always with us. As we're sinning alone, sheading your lonely tears, the one who shed the lonely blood for you will understand you and will always be with you. Though the way of the cross is lonely, unpopular, narrow, the road less traveled by, remember you will never walk alone. Though you think you're alone like Elijah, God said I have 7,000 hidden is living for my glory. It's a lonely road, less traveled by, but god is raising his arm. People of different location God is raising the church of Jesus Christ and our commander will march on. There is a strange alliance that forms along the cross, the enemy of the cross, but the church of Jesus Christ also lines along the cross and we have each other. World is hard, world is rough, but

keep on walking together. It will be worth it, we are participating in this glorious and miraculous resurrection and redemption of humanity.

## **Conclusion**