



PART FOUR: LOSING YOUR LIFE

Introduction

Our culture is emerging from a season of uncertainty, fear, and division. Many of us are exhausted. And as we look ahead, things don't appear any more certain. From foreign wars to roller-coaster economics, we have much cause for concern. What would it be like to face the storms of life with confidence instead of anxiety? This week we ask, "What does it mean to lose our life in order to save it?"

Discussion Questions

1. Have you ever felt like the character Job? A season in your life that was just one bad thing after another? What encouraged you during that stormy season?
2. *Read Luke 7:36-50* out loud, with everyone else following along in their Bibles.
3. Imagine yourself in her shoes. What would you be feeling as you approached Jesus?
4. Jesus told a parable about two people who are forgiven of much and little. As your faith has grown, how has it impacted your awareness of God's grace & forgiveness in your life?
5. How would it feel to have Jesus come to your defense in front of those men? What would it mean to hear him say, "Your sins are forgiven."
6. Have you ever thought about the courage Jesus needed to go through with his crucifixion?
7. *Read Luke 9:24-26*. In light of this passage, what is your most courageous next move?
8. Are you ready to surrender, worship, and trust Jesus with your life?

CHANGING YOUR MIND

For whoever wants to save their life will lose it, but whoever loses their life for me will save it. What good is it for someone to gain the whole world, and yet lose or forfeit their very self? Whoever is ashamed of me and my words, the Son of Man will be ashamed of them when he comes in his glory and in the glory of the Father and of the holy angels.

-Luke 9:24-26 (NIV)