**No Reserves! No Retreat! No Regrets!**

**Luke 9:46-52**

How we can live our lives with no reserves, no retreat, and no regrets?

1. Here are the three commitments you must make:
2. Humble yourself!
3. Follow Jesus!
4. Pay the price!

Jesus said in **Luke 9:23-24**: *If anyone would come after me, he must deny himself and take up his cross daily and follow me. For whoever wants to save his life will lose it, but whoever loses his life for me will save it*.

1. At this stage in the life of these Twelve disciples, they have been following Jesus for over 2 years.

* They have seen His power of full display feeding the 5,000.
* They have witnessed His authority over demons.
* Three of them have just witnessed His majestic glory at the Transfiguration.
* Like everyone else, they were ready to crown Him as King.
* The **crown could not come before the cross**.

**Isaiah 53:10** says, *Yet it was the Lord’s will to crush him and cause him to suffer, and though the Lord makes his life a guilt offering, he will see his offspring and prolong his days, and the will of the Lord will prosper in his hand*.

1. **For he who is** **least among you** all—**he is the greatest**.”
* What did Jesus mean by this?
* What is it about little children that God so loves?

 **Two things:**

1. Children are **unpretentious** and **unassuming**!
2. Children possess **humble trustfulness**!
3. Why is pride such a stumbling block?
* Because pride blinds a man from seeing who he really is at his core!
* And pride is the sin from which all other sins grow.

**1 Corinthians 1:26-29** *Brothers, think of what you were when you were called. Not many of you were wise by human standards; not many were influential; not many were of noble birth. But God chose the foolish things of the world to shame the wise; God chose the weak things of the world to shame the strong. He chose the lowly things of this world and the despised things—and the things that are not—to nullify the things that are, so that no one may boast before him*.

1. **Verse 51:** MAJOR TURNING POINT IN THE GOSPEL OF LUKE.
2. Everything written thus far has been about Jesus’ ministry of preaching and teaching both to the masses and the Twelve. Now, **Jesus turns toward the cross**.

**Verse 51** literally reads: *Now it came about that, as the* ***predetermined*** *days before His ascension were running out, Jesus* ***resolutely set*** *out for Jerusalem*.

1. Jesus turned his attention away from the world and focused on His one mission in life—the very purpose for his birth—to die on a Roman cross and suffer great humiliation and shame before the entire world.
2. Here’s the truth: to be a true follower of Jesus in this very dark world here is what you must do and what you must expect:
3. You must follow Jesus fully focused and fully committed.
4. You must be willing to pay the costs which will involve rejection and discomfort.

**John 15:18-20**, Jesus says, “If the world hates you, keep in mind that it hated me first…if they persecuted me, they will persecute you also…they will treat you this way because of my name, for they do not know the One who sent me.”

1. What does it mean to follow Jesus?
2. No reserves! To follow Jesus, you must be willing to give up your old way of life. You must be willing to let go of your selfish desires for success in the eyes of the world.
3. No reserves! Following Jesus in this world is radical. Following Jesus requires immediate obedience and full commitment. All in!
4. No retreat! When it comes to following Jesus, first count the costs. Once you fully understand the price you will pay and still say yes…you must understand this. There is no turning back.
5. No regrets! When you come to the end of your life and look back…you will say, no regrets!
6. Do you want to travel along the road with Jesus? What traits must you possess?
7. A humble spirit!
8. A focused heart!
9. A committed mind!
10. A willingness to go wherever He leads and do whatever He says.