

# Take Up Your Cross

Sunday, February 25, 2018

Mark 8:31-38

## Happiness Science

- Nurture Relationships
- Help Others
- Cultivate Gratitude
- Embrace Adversity
- Connect to a Deeper Purpose or Mission

<http://bigthink.com/design-for-good/everything-you-should-know-about-happiness-in-one-infographic>

**Mark 8:31-38** – Something like that going on here

## Deny Yourself

### Love vs Selfishness

### What is this “Love”

Teaching; Stories; The Ultimate Story

## Take Up Your Cross

Story of Jesus – Death and Resurrection

### What is God Like?

Revelation, Unveiling, Disclosing – God **IS** love

### How Should We Live?

Cross Shaped Living - **This** kind of love

## Follow Me

**Model** – Jesus the model for Cross Shaped Living

**Method** – How do people actually change?

- Information
  - There are Problems with Rules...
  - Can never say everything
  - Knowing is not necessarily Doing!
- Transformation – Coming to Jesus
- Formation – Ongoing Following

# Lent – Week 2

## Reading - Mark 8:31; 34-38 (NIV)

<sup>31</sup> He then began to teach them that the Son of Man must suffer many things and be rejected by the elders, the chief priests and the teachers of the law, and that he must be killed and after three days rise again.

<sup>34</sup> Then he called the crowd to him along with his disciples and said: “Whoever wants to be my disciple must deny themselves and take up their cross and follow me. <sup>35</sup> For whoever wants to save their life will lose it, but whoever loses their life for me and for the gospel will save it. <sup>36</sup> What good is it for someone to gain the whole world, yet forfeit their soul? <sup>37</sup> Or what can anyone give in exchange for their soul? <sup>38</sup> If anyone is ashamed of me and my words in this adulterous and sinful generation, the Son of Man will be ashamed of them when he comes in his Father’s glory with the holy angels.”

## A Collect for the Second Sunday in Lent

O God, whose glory it is always to have mercy:

Be gracious to all who have gone astray from your ways,  
and bring them again with penitent hearts and steadfast faith  
to embrace and hold fast  
the unchangeable truth of your Word,  
Jesus Christ your Son;

who with you and the Holy Spirit lives and reigns,  
one God, for ever and ever.

Amen.