

SERIES: CALLED TO FOLLOW
#1807: Cost-Benefit Analysis.

What is the value in following Jesus?

2/23/2025 Pastor Tony

NLT=New Living Translation

Then Jesus said to his disciples, “If any of you wants to be my follower, you must give up your own way, take up your cross, and follow me. If you try to hang on to your life, you will lose it. But if you give up your life for my sake, you will save it. And what do you benefit if you gain the whole world but lose your own soul? Is anything worth more than your soul? For the Son of Man will come with his angels in the glory of his Father and will judge all people according to their deeds. And I tell you the truth, some standing here right now will not die before they see the Son of Man coming in his Kingdom.”

— Matthew 16:24–28 (NLT)

The Value of Discipleship: Cost - Benefit

1. The Cost: Deny Yourself, Take Up Your Cross, and Follow Jesus.

Then Jesus said to his disciples, “If any of you wants to be my follower, you must give up your own way, take up your cross, and follow me.

— Matthew 16:24 (NLT)

2. The Benefits: Forgiveness, Eternal Life & a Place in God’s Kingdom.

If you try to hang on to your life, you will lose it. But if you give up your life for my sake, you will save it. And what do you benefit if you gain the whole world but lose your own soul? Is anything worth more than your soul?

— Matthew 16:25–26 (NLT)

For the Son of Man will come with his angels in the glory of his Father and will judge all people according to their deeds. And I tell you the truth, some standing here right now will not die before they see the Son of Man coming in his Kingdom.”

— Matthew 16:27–28 (NLT)

I saw the dead, both great and small, standing before God's throne. And the books were opened, including the Book of Life. And the dead were judged according to what they had done, as recorded in the books. ... And all were judged according to their deeds. — Revelation 20:12–13 (NLT)

And anyone whose name was not found recorded in the Book of Life was thrown into the lake of fire. — Revelation 20:15 (NLT)