

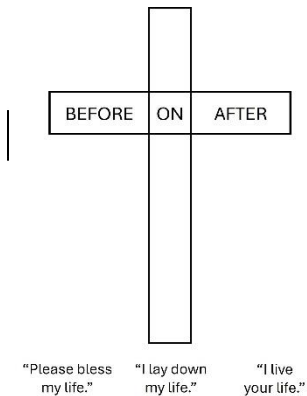
Luke 9:18-27  
 Series – The Way of Jesus  
 Message – Power  
 May 31, 2026  
 Fifth Reformed Church  
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### Shattered Expectations

- “When Christ calls a man, he bids him come and die” (Dietrich Bonhoeffer, The Cost of Discipleship, p.99).
- When Jesus calls us to follow him, he \_\_\_\_\_ us “to put to death that part of us that is still holding onto control and trying to enact our own will” (Bob Rognlien, The Jesus-Shaped Way, p.256).
- Matthew 16:22-23
- To follow Jesus, we \_\_\_\_\_ die to ourselves.

### Dying to Self

- *Arneomai* – to deny, disown, \_\_\_\_\_, repudiate
- Romans 6:3-8
- Mark 14:38
- When referring to spiritual realities:
  - The *flesh* is weak and sinful, associated with death, and at \_\_\_\_\_ with God.
  - The *spirit* is associated with life and peace and \_\_\_\_\_ on the indwelling of the Holy Spirit.



- Before:
- On:
- After:

- Change in prayer:
  - Bless my life...
  - I lay down my life...
  - I live your life...

### Power in Weakness

- “For when I am weak, then I am strong” (2 Cor. 12:9-10)
- If a seed falls and dies, it produces many seeds (John 12:24).

Following the Way of Jesus:

- Step One – Live from your covenant identity.
- Step Two – Serve in your kingdom authority.
- Step Three – Find and invest in people of peace.
- Step Four – Build spiritual family on mission.
- Step Five – Function as a spiritual parent to others (disciples making disciples).
- Step Six – Establish in fruitful rhythms.
- Step Seven – Take up your \_\_\_\_\_.

### Reflection Questions

1. In your journey of faith in Jesus, have you identified unspoken expectations you might have carried regarding God or the Bible or faith? What were those, and if those expectations have been changed, what was that experience like?
2. As you think about dying to self and the three-stage cross, share an area of life where you feel you’ve largely died to yourself.
3. Share an area that is either on the cross now or an area you know needs to go to the cross.
4. How have you experienced strength in the Lord when you’ve been weak on your own?
5. What did you find most helpful/challenging in this message?
6. How is God getting your attention?
7. What might God be saying to you?
8. What is your next faithful step?