

# What Following Requires

Rachael Martin 6,20,2016

What does the Lord require of us today?

Beyond the plans and appointments you have for today and this week, there is an agenda that moves the heart of God. It's a giving up of your own way, it's a sacrificing of your time, strength, resources, ideas, talents, energy, and even family.

**Mark 8:34-38 - Then, calling the crowd to join his disciples, he said, "If any of you wants to be my follower, you must give up your own way, take up your cross, and follow me. <sup>35</sup> If you try to hang on to your life, you will lose it. But if you give up your life for my sake and for the sake of the Good News, you will save it. <sup>36</sup> And what do you benefit if you gain the whole world but lose your own soul? <sup>37</sup> Is anything worth more than your soul? <sup>38</sup> If anyone is ashamed of me and my message in these adulterous and sinful days, the Son of Man will be ashamed of that person when he returns in the glory of his Father with the holy angels."**

Father, I pray that we would seek You while You may be found. I pray that we would inquire of You – what are Your purposes and plans for us today? I pray that we would be bold to speak of You when we are given the opportunity. I pray that we would turn from evil and temptation and cling to Your strength and righteousness. Father, I pray that we would look to You and follow You even when it doesn't seem like there is a clear path, that we would trust You and be obedient to Your leading. I pray that we would put You first even above the things we think are permissible to pursue. Lord I pray that You would keep Your hand of protection on us as we go through today and this week and that You would guide us as we look to follow You and we lay down the things You require us to. In Jesus name. Amen.

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