

March 15, 2020

“Transplant:
A Change of Heart”

“A Change in Ownership” Core 23

“Jesus told His disciples, ‘If anyone would come after Me, let him deny himself and take up his cross and follow Me. For whoever would save his life will lose it, but whoever loses his life for My sake will find it.’”

Matthew 16:24-25

A. “But, who do you say I am??”

“When Jesus came to the region of Caesarea Philippi, He asked His disciples, ‘Who do people say that the Son of Man is?’”
Matthew 16:13

1. The response of the disciples was what other people say, rather than what they say!

“‘Well,’ they replied, ‘some say John the Baptist, some say Elijah, and others say Jeremiah or one of the other prophets.’”

Matthew 16:14

2. But Jesus didn’t want to know what other people were saying, but rather, what are my disciples saying?

“Then He asked them, ‘But who do you say I am?’” *Matthew 16:15*

3. Peter’s response was quick and direct!

“Simon Peter answered, ‘You are the Messiah, the Son of the living God.’” *Matthew 16:16*

4. But...Peter’s response came from God speaking through him.

“Jesus replied, ‘You are blessed, Simon son of John, because My Father in heaven has revealed this to you. You did not learn this from any human being.’” *Matthew 16:17*

5. But...who do you say Jesus is?

“I Am the Way, the Truth, and the Life!” *John 14:6*

“I Am the Bread of Life.” *John 6:35*

“I Am the Light of the world” *John 8:12*

“I Am the Good Shepherd!” *John 10:11,14*

“I Am the Vine!” *John 15:1,5*

“I Am the Door!” *John 10:9*

“I Am the Resurrection and the Life!” *John 11:25*

B. Jesus knew what was ahead...

“From then on Jesus began to tell His disciples plainly that it was necessary for Him to go to Jerusalem, and that He would suffer many terrible things at the hands of the elders, the leading priests, and the teachers of religious law. He would be killed, but on the third day He would be raised from the dead.” *Matthew 16:21*

1. When Jesus shared what He knew was ahead, Peter actually began to reprimand Jesus. How often do we think we know better than God?

“But Peter took Him aside and began to reprimand Him for saying such things. ‘Heaven forbid, Lord,’ he said. ‘This will never happen to you!’” *Matthew 16:22*

2. Jesus immediately recognized where this temptation was coming from and dismissed it! He was purposeful and intent on not falling for distractions.

“Jesus turned to Peter and said, ‘Get away from Me, Satan! You are a dangerous trap to Me. You are seeing things merely from a human point of view, not from God’s.’” *Matthew 16:23*

3. When faced with temptation to doubt, to fear, to worry or to fall for the traps the enemy sets, remember God has another viewpoint!

“You are seeing things merely from a human point of view, not from God’s.” *Matthew 16:23*

“Dear friends, don’t be surprised at the fiery trials you are going through, as if something strange were happening to you.” *1 Peter 4:12*
“The temptations in your life are no different from what others experience. And God is faithful. He will not allow the temptation to be more than you can stand. When you are tempted, He will show you a way out so that you can endure.” *1 Corinthians 10:13*

C. Jesus called us to a change in ownership...

1. To be a follower of Jesus, we must give up our own way!

“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*

2. To be a follower of Jesus, we must take up our cross!

“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*

3. When you hang on to your life, you will lose it!

“If you try to hang on to your life, you will lose it...” *Matthew 16:25a*

4. When you give up your life, you will save it!

“...But if you give up your life for My sake, you will save it.” *Matthew 16:25b*

D. Our lives belong to God...

“Then we will no longer be immature like children. We won’t be tossed and blown about by every wind of new teaching. We will not be influenced when people try to trick us with lies so clever they sound like the truth.” *Ephesians 4:14*

“and you belong to Christ, and Christ belongs to God.”

1 Corinthians 3:23

1. If your life belongs to God...who owns your will and your desires?

“Now may the God of peace— ...equip you with all you need for doing His will.” *Hebrews 13:20a,21a*

“For God is working in you, giving you the desire and the power to do what pleases Him.” *Philippians 2:13*

2. If your life belongs to God...who owns your time and your resources?

“Make the most of every opportunity in these evil days.”

Ephesians 5:16

“For ‘the earth is the LORD’s, and everything in it.’”

1 Corinthians 10:26

3. If your life belongs to God...who owns your ambitions, attitudes, and actions?

“Never be lazy, but work hard and serve the Lord enthusiastically.” *Romans 12:11*

“Instead, let the Spirit renew your thoughts and attitudes.”

Ephesians 4:23

“Those who say they live in God should live their lives as Jesus did.”

1 John 2:6

4. If your life belongs to God...who owns your life and all of you?

“...one God and Father of all, who is over all, in all, and living through all.” *Ephesians 4:6*

“Do not be afraid, for I have ransomed you. I have called you by name; you are Mine.” *Isaiah 43:1b*

March 22:

Back to the Future: Welcome to a New World

A Future Plan - Predestination

“For many are called, but few are chosen.” *Matthew 22:14*