

The Cost of Comfort

PASTOR LINK ALEXIS

Matthew 16:21-26

²¹ From that time Jesus began to show to His disciples that He must go to Jerusalem, and suffer many things from the elders and chief priests and scribes, and be killed, and be raised the third day. ²² Then Peter took Him aside and began to rebuke Him, saying, "Far be it from You, Lord; this shall not happen to You!" ²³ But He turned and said to Peter, "Get behind Me, Satan! You are an offense to Me, for you are not mindful of the things of God, but the things of men." ²⁴ Then Jesus said to His disciples, "If anyone desires to come after Me, let him deny himself, and take up his cross, and follow Me. ²⁵ For whoever desires to save his life will lose it, but whoever loses his life for My sake will find it. ²⁶ For what profit is it to a man if he gains the whole world, and loses his own soul? Or what will a man give in exchange for his soul?"

1. A comfort-focused life can **hinder** the Gospel

*Psalm 22, Isaiah 11, Isaiah 52:13 – Isaiah 53:12, Zechariah 12:10
Matthew 4:1-11, Hebrews 5:8-9, 1 Peter 4:12-19*

2. A comfort-focused life can lead to a life which avoids **rejection, suffering, and death**

Romans 8:17, 1 Peter 4:15-16, John 15:20

"A paradox is a truth claim that is well-supported and yet difficult to believe because it seems logically contradictory, incoherent, or contrary to common sense."

- Dictionary of Christianity and Science

3. A comfort-focused life can create **divided loyalty**

Exodus 34:14, Deuteronomy 6:15, Matthew 6:24