

Holy, Holy

Holy Holy Holy Holy

Holy Holy

Lord God Almighty

And we lift our hearts before You
as a token of our love

Holy Holy Holy Holy

Gracious Father Gracious Father
Were so blessed to be your children
Gracious Father
And we lift our hands before You
as a token of our love
Gracious Father Gracious Father

Precious Jesus Precious Jesus
We're so glad that You've redeemed us
Precious Jesus
And we lift our hands before You
as a token of our love
Precious Jesus Precious Jesus

Holy Spirit Holy Spirit
Come and fill our hearts anew
Holy Spirit
And we lift our hands before You
as a token of our love
Holy Spirit Holy Spirit

Hallelujah Hallelujah
Hallelujah Hallelujah
And we lift our hearts before You
as a token of our love
Hallelujah Hallelujah

Hallelujah Hallelujah
Hallelujah Hallelujah
And we lift our hearts before You
as a token of our love
Hallelujah Hallelujah

A close-up photograph of golden sand with several footprints. The footprints are arranged in a path that leads from the top right towards the bottom center. The text "Following Jesus" is written in a white, cursive font across the middle of the image, partially overlapping the sand and the path of footprints.

Following Jesus

PRINCIPLE > cross before crown

IF anyone would come after me,
he must deny himself and take up
his cross and follow me.

(Mt. 16:24)

A. **deny self**... **not** personal identity (as a distinct individual), but the natural [selfish] **desires** of the “flesh”

I know that nothing good lives in me,
that is, in my flesh [sinful nature]
(Rom. 7:18)

Clothe yourself with the Lord Jesus
Christ and do not think about how to
gratify the desires of the sinful
nature.

(Rom. 13:14)

So put off your “old self,” that is being corrupted by its deceitful desires...

(Eph. 4:22)

For we who glory in Christ Jesus put no confidence in the “flesh” *(Phil. 3:3)*

Blessed are the poor in spirit, for theirs is the kingdom of heaven

(Mt. 5:3)

Growth in grace is a growth downward. It is the forming of a lower estimate of ourselves, a deepening recognition of our nothingness.

-Arthur Pink

**B. accept consequent
suffering – pay any price
necessary**

i.e. any hardship or suffering
that is mine because of my
relationship to Christ

Many folks want a “no cost” discipleship, but Christ offers no such option.

- Christ does not call disciples to himself to make their lives easy and prosperous, but to make them holy and productive
- John MacArthur

C. obey Jesus (teachings
and example) – **daily** life

Whoever claims to live in him must walk as Jesus walked. (*1 Jn. 2:6*)

To this you were called, because Christ suffered for you, leaving you an example that you should follow in his steps. (*1 Pet. 2:21*)

For whoever wants to save his
life will lose it, but whoever loses
his life for me [my sake, 10:39]
will find it. (*Mt. 16:25*)

PARADOX > win by losing

A) If your goal is security and prosperity... you will “save” your life, but it won’t be worth a lot, because it has lost power, testimony, and reward.

If you **submerge** your selfish **interests** into the mission/message of Christ, you will find greater joy, power, and freedom in being alive than any other way. And... eternal reward.

What good will it be for a man if he gains the whole world, yet forfeits his soul? Or, what can a man give in exchange for his soul?

(Mt. 16:26)

- To gain every possession possible in this world and yet be without Christ is to be bankrupt forever.

- And to abandon everything possible in this world for the sake of Christ, is to be rich forever.

Living for Jesus

Living for Jesus, a life that is true,
Striving to please Him in all that I do;
Yielding allegiance, glad-hearted
and free,
This is the pathway of blessing for me.

O Jesus, Lord and Savior,
I give myself to Thee,
For Thou, in Thy atonement,
didst give Thyself for me;
I own no other Master,
my heart shall be Thy throne;
My life I give, henceforth to live,
O Christ, for Thee alone.

Living for Jesus Who died in my place,
Bearing on Calv'ry my sin
and disgrace;
Such love constrains me to answer
His call,
Follow His leading and give Him
my all.

O Jesus, Lord and Savior,
I give myself to Thee,
For Thou, in Thy atonement,
didst give Thyself for me;
I own no other Master,
my heart shall be Thy throne;
My life I give, henceforth to live,
O Christ, for Thee alone.