

## Discussion Questions

*Session Seven: Peter Confesses Jesus as the Christ*

### APPLICATION

The whole concept of “giving one’s life away” is a foreign concept in our fast-pace consumer world. Too often, we chase after stuff, believing it will help us to feel better and make us whole. Instead of giving, we invest our time accumulating things. Jesus reverses the trend of consumerism by encouraging his followers to give their life away.

1. When did you first begin to understand what Jesus meant by that phrase “to give your life away”?
2. What makes it challenging for you personally “to give your life away”?
3. What role does sin have in this process of “giving your life away”?

Jesus also encourages his followers to pick up the cross. This does not mean to suffer through the inconveniences of life such as a long line at the grocery. A cross is an instrument of death. Due to the size and weight of a cross, a person does not easily pick up a cross. Jesus is underscoring his invitation to “give one’s life away”. Carrying a cross involves death of one’s own selfish desires as well as the possibility of one’s own death.

4. Imagine a cross big enough for you to be placed upon. Imagine the weight of that cross. Imagine you being willing to be placed upon that cross and facing death – all for the sake of Jesus.
5. What thoughts and feelings do you have as you imagine the cross?

6. Is that helpful or meaningful to imagine your own sacrificial death on the cross? Why or why not?
  
7. What would it mean this week to deny yourself for the sake of Christ?
  
8. What would it mean this week to pick up the cross of Christ?
  
9. What does it mean for you to join Christ for eternal life?