



### Take Up the Cross and Follow Him

<sup>24</sup>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. <sup>25</sup>For whoever desires to save his life will lose it, but whoever loses his life for My sake will find it. <sup>26</sup>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? <sup>27</sup>For the Son of Man will come in the glory of His Father with His angels, and then He will reward each according to his works. <sup>28</sup>Assuredly, I say to you, there are some standing here who shall not taste death till they see the Son of Man coming in His Kingdom."

Matthew 16:33

### HOW TO GO ON THE COUNTER-OFFENSIVE

- WE NEED TO TAKE ACTION
  - (Matthew 16:33)
- WE NEED TO TOUGHEN UP
  - (Matthew 7:13-14)

### The Narrow Way

<sup>13</sup>"Enter by the narrow gate; for wide is the gate and broad is the way that leads to destruction, and there are many who go in by it. <sup>14</sup>Because <sup>14</sup>narrow is the gate and difficult is the way which leads to life, and there are few who find it.

Matthew 7:13-14

### HOW TO GO ON THE COUNTER-OFFENSIVE

- WE NEED TO TAKE ACTION
  - (Matthew 16:33)
- WE NEED TO TOUGHEN UP
  - (Matthew 7:13-14)
- WE NEED TO KEEP FOCUS
  - (Phillipians 3:1-13)

### All for Christ

<sup>7</sup>But what things were gain to me, these I have counted loss for Christ. <sup>8</sup>Yet indeed I also count all things loss for the excellence of the knowledge of Christ Jesus my Lord, for whom I have suffered the loss of all things, and count them as rubbish, that I may gain Christ <sup>9</sup>and be found in Him, not having my own righteousness, which is from the law, but that which is through faith in Christ, the righteousness which is from God by faith; <sup>10</sup>that I may know Him and the power of His resurrection, and the fellowship of His sufferings, being conformed to His death, <sup>11</sup>if, by any means, I may attain to the resurrection from the dead.

Phillipians 3:7-11

### Pressing Toward the Goal

<sup>12</sup>Not that I have already attained, or am already perfected; but I press on, that I may lay hold of that for which Christ Jesus has also laid hold of me. <sup>13</sup>Brethren, I do not count myself to have apprehended; but one thing I do, forgetting those things which are behind and reaching forward to those things which are ahead, <sup>14</sup>I press toward the goal for the prize of the upward call of God in Christ Jesus. <sup>15</sup>Therefore let us, as many as are mature, have this mind; and if in anything you think otherwise, God will reveal even this to you. <sup>16</sup>Nevertheless, to the degree that we have already attained, let us walk by the same rule, <sup>17</sup>let us be of the same mind.

Phillipians 3:12-16

