

# Life Group Notes – Take Up Your Cross

## Up:

Jesus said to them, ‘who do you say that I am?’ Peter answered, ‘The Messiah of God.’  
Bring your worship to Jesus, the Messiah God has sent into the world. You may want to use this  
Chris Bowater music <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=vwZyOD7jByw>

Jesus, I worship You  
Worship, honour and adore Your lovely name  
Jesus, I worship You  
Lord of lords and King of kings, I worship  
You  
From a thankful heart I sing  
I worship You

Jesus, at your name we bow the knee  
Jesus, at your name we bow the knee  
Jesus, at your name we bow the knee  
And acknowledge who you are

You are the Christ  
You are the Lord  
Through your Spirit in our lives  
We know who you are

## In:

Use the questions selectively, depending on your group’s needs and interests.

Read Luke 9.18-27

1. What stood out from Jeb’s talk? What did you like? What did you dislike?
2. Self-denial is probably the most unappealing message you can put into the public domain. How is taking up our cross and denying ourselves good news?
3. Why did Jesus use such a vulgar image – crucifixion – to illustrate what it means to be his disciple?
4. What risks are there, using such dramatic language to describe discipleship? How can we avoid these risks?
5. Jeb paraphrased the call of Jesus as “To get what you really desire, you must forgo what you really desire.” What does this mean to you?
6. When you have taken up your cross, for Jesus – and why did you do it? When have you not take up your cross – and why not?
7. The UK is a very wealthy country, with complicated legacies from its history as a colonial power and empire. What does taking up our cross mean for Christians living in the UK?

## Out:

8. Pray for one another, for any needs or concerns that have arisen in your discussions. This is a hard and sensitive topic, so pray for the enabling of the Holy Spirit to take up the cross.
9. The disciples’ willingness to follow Jesus was because they realised, who he was. Pray that the life of Jesus will flow through our lives, schools, workplaces and churches, to draw people to him.