

## Worship Service – September 7, 2014

*Worship Song .....	Together with Band	
Opening Prayer .....	Presiding Pastor	
Bible Reading .....	Mark 8:31-38 .....	Solomon Berhanu
Prayer .....	Harold Goneh	
Announcements .....	Rolando Sanchez	
Communion .....	Together	
Offering Prayer .....	Pastor	
Offering .....	Together	
Special Song .....	Worship Band	
Message .....	<b>The Cost of Following Jesus</b> ..... Timothy Hong	
*Benediction .....	Presiding pastor	
* <i>Please stand</i>		

### Today's Sermon Outline **The Cost of Following Jesus** Text: Mark 8:31-38

#### **Deny yourself**

Jesus says that the first cost for us to be His disciples is to deny ourselves. "Deny" is from the Greek word "*aparneomai*," which means to completely disown oneself from someone (Matthew 26:34, 70, 72, 74). To deny self is to have sincere, genuine conviction that one has nothing in his person to commend before God, nothing worthwhile to offer God at all (Rom. 7:18). Denying self means that we renounce self-interest; to disregard the gratification of one's own needs and desires; to give up one's own will which is against the will of God.

Denying self means that we renounce our right to run our own lives. It means that we do not have the final right to decide what we are going to do with our lives (1 Corinthians 6:19-20).

Our natural tendency is not self-denial, but self-centered assertion. So self-denial does not come naturally. If we remember how Christ denied himself and let his self-denial truth come into our hearts we can deny ourselves (Galatians 5:24).

#### **Take up your cross**

It means sacrificing and suffering

Taking up your cross means living a life of sacrifice and suffering for Christ. It means that we serve Christ faithfully, even when we lose our own benefits and comforts, are humiliated, or are treated unfairly, and our pride is hurt. To take up the cross consists of the continual practice of small sacrifices which may be distasteful to us. This involves numerous choices and resolutions in small amounts.

#### It is *your* cross not other's

Each of us has a personal and particular cross. Each of us has something, some issue, some situation, and some circumstance that must be carried and endured. God has a uniquely blessed plan for you through your cross. As your life is different and unique from all other lives, so your cross is different and unique from the crosses of others (Jon 21: 22).

#### Taking up your cross is voluntary submission

Jesus never forces any person to take up a cross against the person's free will. Bearing our cross is something we deliberately take up and bear. How can we take up the cross voluntarily? By believing that the cross is the sure way of final victory, and to participate in the glory of Jesus' resurrection (Romans 8:18; I Corinthians 1:18).

#### **Follow me**

Jesus says that to be His disciples, by taking up our crosses, we must follow Him. Christ calls us not to follow some ritual, or custom, religious laws but to follow Him. It is a relationship not based on feelings, but a will of commitment. When you follow Jesus, you have to realize that there is only one leader, and it isn't you, no matter how much you'd like for it to be. Jesus is your leader – fully and completely, or He isn't in your life at all. Jesus says in John 12:26, "*If anyone serves me, let him follow me; and where I am, there shall my servant also be; If anyone serves me, the Father will honor him.*" The true disciples follow Jesus, and God will honor them. He is inviting you to make a decision today to follow Him. Are you willing to lose everything in order to gain Jesus?

#### Application

1. To be a disciple of Jesus, you must deny yourself first. What are the practical ways to deny yourself?
2. What is the cross you must take up while you follow Christ? How can you take up your cross not by being forced by anyone, but by your voluntary will?
3. What does Jesus mean by "following me?" How can you let Jesus be the leader of your life completely?

**Announcements**

**Lunch preparation**

This week – Lynn  
Next week (9/14) – Martha & Volunteer

**Prayer requests**

- \*For healing- Suja John (Left eye infection), Noel (Lymph tumor), Jyoti (Cancer, Kamran’s mom in India).
- \* For Kurt Schwarz and Anish John – started ministry as Hospital Chaplain Residents last Tuesday.
- \* For Arfan Gill- moved to Philadelphia for a new job August 31.
- \* For Joseph and Kelly Fernandez- will dedicate their children (Joseph David & Natali Anahi) at next Sunday (Sep 14) service.

**Annual ESF international festival**

Will be held on all Sundays in the coming month of October (Oct 5, 12, 19, 26). Please prepare to invite people to the festival ahead of time beginning this week.

**Volunteers for church cleaning**

Dates	Group	Leader
Sep 8-14	African	Ildvert Mbongue (312-730-6186)
Sep 22-28	Youth	Aldrick Lim (781-414-1973)
Sep 15-21	English	Gail Hill (630-337-5330)
Sep,29-Oct,5	Hope	Sang H. Lee (312-685-8663)
Oct 6-12	Asian	Kiwang Song (248-464-9595)
Oct 13-19	Spanish	Rolando Sanchez (773-727-0387)

**Ushers of the Month of September**

Offering ushers	Erlyn Balano, Martha Velasquez, Jovie Dumlao, Matthew Parks
Welcome ushers	Analís Garcia, Priscilla Caronongan, Lynníe Atonson
Kitchen	Lunch preparation group

**Last week’s offering**

<b>Tithe</b>	Ramon Roman//Jovi Dumlao//Romulo & Isabel Espinoza//Maximo & Bertha Fernandez//Lydia Hong//Candy Sanchez//Leiva Rolando Sanchez//Kiwang Song//Oscar Torres//Gail Hill//Solomon & Muluye//Aldrick & Jessica Lim
<b>Lord's Day</b>	Rene & Lynn Corachea // Rose and Nestor Dumlao//Jose & Martha Espinoza//Timothy Hong//Anish & Suja John//Susan Song//Jin Teston//Misty Alexis Stubbs//Maria Kim//Patricia Lopez
<b>Thanksgiving</b>	Kim Boksoon//Oscar Torres//Gail Hill//Aldrick & Jessica Lim // David Yupe
<b>Mission</b>	Romulo & Isabel Espinoza//Lydia Hong//Gail Hill

**Weekly Bible Reading Chart**

Date	Old Testament	Check	New Testament	√
9/8(Monday)	Proverbs 13-14		1 Corinthians 16	
9/9(Tuesday)	Proverbs 15-16		2 Corinthians 1	
9/10(Wednesday)	Proverbs 17-18		2 Corinthians 2	
9/11(Thursday)	Proverbs 19-20		2 Corinthians 3	
9/12(Friday)	Proverbs 21-22		2 Corinthians 4	
9/13(Saturday)	Proverbs 23-24		2 Corinthians 5	
9/14(Sunday)	Proverbs 25-27		2 Corinthians 6	

# ESF International Church

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**September 7, 2014**



**Worship services:**

Sunday 11:30 AM  
-Main Worship Service for All

**Prayer services**

Fridays 8:00 PM  
Sundays 9:30 AM - Room 105

**Bible Study**

Shepherd Group –Wednesday 8:00 PM  
Open to all – Saturday 10:00 AM  
Cell groups –By appointment  
Hope group – Sunday 10:00 AM

**Cell Groups**

According to arrangement of each cell

**Campus Ministry**

Wednesday- At Truman

**Youth Ministry**

Sunday – 1:30 PM

**Children's ministry**

Sunday school- Sunday 11:30 AM

**ESF Band Practice**

Saturday 5:00pm & Sunday 10:00am

**Missionaries**

- Nancy Campo – Campus ministry in Peru
- Miguelina Martinez- Campus ministry in Dominican Republic
- Suri Kumar – Campus ministry and Hindu ministry in India
- Jordan Custorio – Campus ministry in Philippines
- Richard Shaffer – Campus ministry in USA
- Paul Uzoma –Campus ministry in Benin, Africa
- Samuel Lebbie – Campus ministry in Senegal, Africa
- Rahab Lee – Campus ministry in Asia
- Chan Park – Church planting ministry in Croatia, Europe

**Ministers**

- Senior pastor -Timothy Hong
- Hope group ministry- Sang H. Lee Youth group ministry- Ki Wang Song
- Assistant pastors – Harold Goneh, Kurt Schwartz, Solomon Berhanu