



Ride or Die 3 – On the Mountain of Worship Spiritual Formation Guide

We hope you'll use this guide to take the teaching from Sunday's service and reflect on it with a few friends or with a group. If you have questions or want to talk more about how to take a next spiritual step, contact us at info@wschurch.org.

Scripture:

One day Jesus left the crowds to pray alone. Only his disciples were with him, and he asked them, "Who do people say I am?"

¹⁹ "Well," they replied, "some say John the Baptist, some say Elijah, and others say you are one of the other ancient prophets risen from the dead."

²⁰ Then he asked them, "But who do you say I am?"

Peter replied, "You are the Messiah sent from God!"

Jesus warned his disciples not to tell anyone who he was. ²² "The Son of Man^[e] must suffer many terrible things," he said. "He will be rejected by the elders, the leading priests, and the teachers of religious law. He will be killed, but on the third day he will be raised from the dead."

²³ Then he said to the crowd, "If any of you wants to be my follower, you must give up your own way, take up your cross daily, and follow me. ²⁴ If you try to hang on to your life, you will lose it. But if you give up your life for my sake, you will save it. ²⁵ And what do you benefit if you gain the whole world but are yourself lost or destroyed? ²⁶ If anyone is ashamed of me and my message, the Son of Man will be ashamed of that person when he returns in his glory and in the glory of the Father and the holy angels. ²⁷ I tell you the truth, some standing here right now will not die before they see the Kingdom of God."

²⁸ About eight days later Jesus took Peter, John, and James up on a mountain to pray. ²⁹ And as he was praying, the appearance of his face was transformed, and his clothes became dazzling white. ³⁰ Suddenly, two men, Moses and Elijah, appeared and began talking with Jesus. ³¹ They were glorious to see. And they were speaking about his exodus from this world, which was about to be fulfilled in Jerusalem.

³² Peter and the others had fallen asleep. When they woke up, they saw Jesus' glory and the two men standing with him. ³³ As Moses and Elijah were starting to leave, Peter, not even knowing what he was saying, blurted out, "Master, it's wonderful for us to be here! Let's make three shelters as memorials—one for you, one for Moses, and one for Elijah." ³⁴ But even as he was saying this, a cloud overshadowed them, and terror gripped them as the cloud covered them.

³⁵ Then a voice from the cloud said, "This is my Son, my Chosen One. Listen to him." ³⁶ When the voice finished, Jesus was there alone. They didn't tell anyone at that time what they had seen.

Luke 9:18-35

Reflection Questions:

- What voices do you hear most often during the week? (Family, friends, coworkers, music, TV, podcasts, etc.)
- What are some of the things you've heard people say about Jesus outside of church settings?
- Have you ever had an experience that reminded you that Jesus is truly your "ride or die" – the only one who will always be there for you?
- What stood out to you from Sunday's service? How did you sense God at work in you through the songs, the message, and being together with others as part of the church? (The message main points and scripture are listed below if it helps you remember.)
- Read the stories from Luke 9:18-35. If possible, read them from several different translations, and listen to them being read by someone (in your group or using the app).
 - What do you notice about Jesus?
 - What do you notice about Jesus' disciples?
- Take a moment on your own to write an answer to these two questions:
 - Who is Jesus to you?
 - What might it look like to turn down the noise and the other voices so that Jesus is the loudest and clearest voice?Share some of your answers with your group or with a trusted spiritual friend this week.
- In the message, Chip shared that our ability to hear Jesus follows our willingness to obey Him. Do you agree or disagree? Why?
- Chip closed the message with a story about his friend who had a mountain-climbing accident. In his most vulnerable moment, he was told by his rescuers that he cried out to Jesus. How does this image impact you, in light of this story and discussion?
- Do you sense God calling you to do anything in response to this message?

Looking for some ways to grow and be stretched spiritually? Check out our highlighted resources at www.wschurch.org/resources. These resources can be purchased using the links or are available for a small donation at the Next Steps area on Sunday mornings.

Message Main Points and Scripture:

- "You are my Son, the Beloved, with you I am well pleased." (Luke 3:22)
- "Who do the crowds say that I am?" (Luke 9:18)
- "But who do you say that I am?" (Luke 9:20)
- **Who do you say Jesus is?**
- "You are the Christ [the Messiah], the Son of the living God." (Mt 16:16)
- Peter answered, "The Messiah of God." (Luke 9:20) ²¹ He sternly ordered and commanded them not to tell anyone, ²² saying, "The Son of Man [Jesus' favorite title for himself] must undergo great suffering and be rejected by the elders, chief priests, and scribes and be killed and on the third day be raised." (Luke 9:21-22)
- ²³ Then he said to them all, "If any wish to come after me, let them deny themselves and take up their cross daily and follow me. ²⁴ For those who want to save their life will lose it, and those who lose their life for my sake will save it." (Luke 9:23-24)
- **Jesus is a different kind of King, so His is a different kind of Kingdom.**
- Jesus took with him Peter and John and James and went up on the mountain to pray. ²⁹ And while he was praying, the appearance of his face changed, and his clothes became as bright as a flash of lightning. ³⁰ Suddenly they saw two men, Moses and Elijah, talking to him. ³¹ They appeared in glory and were speaking about his exodus, which he was about to fulfill in Jerusalem. ³² Now Peter and his companions were weighed down with sleep, but as they awoke **they saw his glory** and

the two men who stood with him. ³³ Just as [Moses and Elijah] were leaving [Jesus], Peter said to Jesus, “Master, it is good for us to be here; let us set up three tents: one for you, one for Moses, and one for Elijah,” not realizing what he was saying. ³⁴ While [Peter] was saying this, a cloud came and overshadowed them, and they were terrified as they entered the cloud. ³⁵ Then from the cloud came a voice that said, “This is my Son, my Chosen; listen to him!” ³⁶ When the voice had spoken, Jesus was found alone.

- **What other voices are you listening to?**
- What might that look like for you to turn down the volume of all the other voices **to ensure Jesus is the loudest and clearest voice in your life?**
- **Our ability to hear Jesus follows our willingness to obey Him.**