²³And He said to all, "If anyone would come after Me, let him deny himself and take up his cross daily and follow Me. ²⁴For whoever would save his life will lose it, but whoever loses his life for My sake will save it. ²⁵For what does it profit a man if he gains the whole world and loses or forfeits himself?

²⁶For whoever is ashamed of Me and of My words, of him will the Son of Man be ashamed when He comes in His glory and the glory of the Father and of the holy angels. —Luke 9:23-26 ESV

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Grace
Renewal
Obedience
Witness
Injury
No!
G
"A growing
Christian knows
that the way to
avoid a marginal
life is to develop a
life with margins."

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"Sacred Schizophrenia forces believers to fight their 'false self' that grapples for personal fame, glory, possessions, power and comfort. The true self, however, exhibits self-denial and a Godward focus.

The denying self loves real life that lasts forever, loves Jesus as all-satisfying, loves meaning more than money, loves the praise of holy heaven more than the praise of sinful earth." —John Piper

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Whoever believes in Him is not condemned, but whoever does not believe is condemned already, because he has not believed in the name of the only Son of God.—John 3:18 ESV

²³He said to them, "You are from below; I am from above. You are of this world; I am not of this world. ²⁴I told you that you would die in your sins, for unless you believe that I am He you will die in your sins." —John 8:23-24 ESV

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Beloved, do not believe every spirit, but test the spirits to see whether they are from God, for many false prophets have gone out into the world. ²By this you know the Spirit of God: every spirit that confesses that Jesus Christ has come in the flesh is from God,

³and every spirit that does not confess Jesus is not from God.

This is the spirit of the antichrist, which you heard was coming and now is in the world already. —I John 4:1-3 ESV

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11This Jesus is the stone that was rejected by you, the builders, which has become the cornerstone. ¹²And there is salvation in no one else, for there is no other name under heaven given among men by which we must be saved. —Acts 4:11-12 ESV

"The Son of Man must suffer many things and be rejected by the elders and chief priests and scribes, and be killed, and on the third day be raised." —Luke 9:22 ESV

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"Jesus laid down stern requirements for discipleship. We must first 'Say No' to ourselves—not simply to pleasures or possessions, but to self—and then take up our cross and follow Christ daily. This means to be identified with Him in surrender, suffering and sacrifice." —Warren Wiersbe

⁴⁵Again, the kingdom of heaven is like a merchant in search of fine pearls, ⁴⁶who, on finding one pearl of great value, went and sold all that he had and bought it.

—Matthew 13:45-46 ESV

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... 9because, if you confess with your mouth that Jesus is Lord and believe in your heart that God raised Him from the dead, you will be saved.

10For with the heart one believes and is justified, and with the mouth one confesses and is saved.

-Romans 10:9-10 ESV

The Principle That Drives

Denial of Self

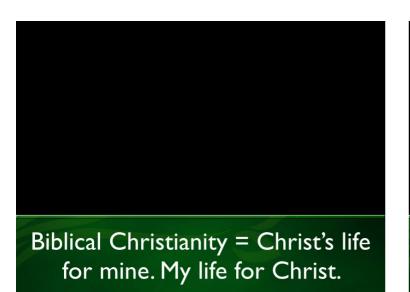
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I have been crucified with Christ. It is no longer I who live, but Christ who lives in me. And the life I now live in the flesh I live by faith in the Son of God, who loved me and gave Himself for me. —Galatians 2:20 ESV

The Principle:
Gaining comes through losing.

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The Practices That Demonstrate

Denial of Self

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Ephesians 6:5-9 Colossians 3:22–4:1

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