



TALK ABOUT IT

1. If you could “gain the world,” where would you build your summer and winter castles?

READ ABOUT IT: Matthew 16:21,24-26; Philippians 4:13;
John 14:6; 2Timothy 4:3

THINK ABOUT IT

2. **Read Matthew 16:21, 24-26.** What kind of Messiah (King) were the disciples expecting? What activities and attitudes are at the heart of Christian discipleship? How does a follower of Christ “give up their life”? What might tempt people to exchange this world for their soul?
3. **Read Philippians 4:13.** This verse is often quoted by famous tv preachers, multimillionaire athletes, and successful Christian entertainers, but have someone in your group look up the context in which the apostle Paul says this (see Phil. 4:10-16). How does that change the way we read and quote verse 4:13?
4. **Read 2 Timothy 4:1-3.** What should we expect from our church and Christian teachers as the day of Christ approaches? How is our time like the time that Paul warns Timothy about? Do our hearts long to hear the Word of God, or do we just want to have our itching ears scratched?

DO SOMETHING ABOUT IT

5. How are you wading into THE Uncomfortable?
 - Who in this world are you impacting for the kingdom of God?
 - Who will be in Heaven because of God working through you?
 - Who do you know who could experience Salvation, Forgiveness, Peace, Joy as a result of changing your comfort level?

Matthew 16:21, 24-26

²¹ From then on Jesus began to tell his disciples plainly that it was necessary for him to go to Jerusalem, and that he would suffer many terrible things at the hands of the elders, the leading priests, and the teachers of religious law. He would be killed, but on the third day he would be raised from the dead.

²⁴ Then Jesus said to his disciples, “If any of you wants to be my follower, you must give up your own way, take up your cross, and follow me. ²⁵ 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. ²⁶ And what do you benefit if you gain the whole world but lose your own soul? Is anything worth more than your soul?”

Philippians 4:13

¹³ For I can do everything through Christ, who gives me strength.

John 14:6

⁶ Jesus answered, “I am the way and the truth and the life. No one comes to the Father except through me.”

2 Timothy 4:1-3 ESV

¹I solemnly urge you in the presence of God and Christ Jesus, who will someday judge the living and the dead when he comes to set up his Kingdom: ²Preach the word of God. Be prepared, whether the time is favorable or not. Patiently correct, rebuke, and encourage your people with good teaching. ³For the time is coming when people will not endure sound teaching, but having itching ears they will accumulate for themselves teachers to suit their own passions...