

Sermon Notes –

**“Lead Me to the Cross”**

Matthew 16:21–26

1) The Call to Discipleship: High Invitation and High Challenge

<sup>28</sup> Come to me, all who labor and are heavy laden, and I will give you rest.  
(Matt 11:28)

<sup>24</sup> If anyone would come after me, let him deny himself and take up his cross and follow me.

<sup>5</sup> For whoever would save his life will lose it, but whoever loses his life for my sake will find it.  
(Matt 16:24-25)

	High-Challenge	Low-Challenge
High-Invitation	<i>Empowered Disciples</i>	<i>Cozy Disciples</i>
Low-Invitation	<i>Stressed Disciples</i>	<i>Bored Disciples</i>

2) The Greatness of Job

9 Then Satan answered the Lord and said, “Does Job fear God for no reason? 10 Have you not put a hedge around him and his house and all that he has, on every side? You have blessed the work of his hands, and his possessions have increased in the land. 11 But stretch out your hand and touch all that he has, and he will curse you to your face.”  
(Job 1:9-10)

3) The Unrelenting Pursuit of Jesus

<sup>14</sup> I am the good shepherd. I know my own and my own know me, <sup>15</sup> just as the Father knows me and I know the Father; and I lay down my life for the sheep... <sup>27</sup> My sheep hear my voice, and I know them, and they follow me. <sup>28</sup> I give them eternal life, and they will never perish, and no one will snatch them out of my hand. (John 10:14-15, 27-28)