Dying with Jesus

Muslims, who deny the death of Jesus on the cross, miss the central significance of His death for the Christian faith. After Jesus raised Lazarus from the dead, the hostility of Jewish leaders hardened into a determination to put Jesus to death. The high priest spoke better than he knew when he said, “It is expedient for you that one man die for the people, and that the whole nation not perish.”

**1. Death is central to the calling of *Jesus***

A. Jesus died as a *substitute*

B. Jesus died for the elect *children of God*

**2. Death is central to the calling of the *Christian***

A. To be a *friend* of Jesus is to be a *foe*
 of the world (John 15:13-15, 18-20)

B. To *follow* Jesus is to take up your cross

Mark 8:34-36

**Application** – Jesus calls you to

A. Die *to sin* (1 Peter 2:24)

B. Die *to self*

To serve *your family* (Ephesians 5:25)

To resist *your family* (Matthew 10:34-39)

To serve *the Lord* with your

*Time*,*Treasure* & *Testimony*

C. Die *as a Christian* (Hebrews 2:14-15)**For Private Meditation or Family Discussion**

1. How did the Lord speak to you through the message? Did He put His finger on any habits or attitudes that you need to change? Did He encourage you regarding some difficulty, move you to undertake some new challenge, or open your heart to some truth you hadn’t seen before?

2. Death, sin, and the Christian

Romans 6:1-14 & Galatians 2:20-21

 Through our union with Christ, we died to sin. This means first, that the penalty of sin has been paid, and second that the power of sin has been broken. (Our sinful nature has not died. That false teaching has harmed many believers.)

Galatians 5:24

 At our initial conversion, we crucified the flesh, that is, we repented of our sinful rebellion against God and desired the freedom that Christ gives.

Romans 8:9, 12-13 & Colossians 3:5 (The NASB marginal reading is better than the text.)

 We have an obligation to put sin to death by the power of the Holy Spirit. This is our on-going battle with sin. We cannot wage this battle except by continual dependence on the Spirit of God.