

## 09-03-23 FOR THE JOURNEY THIS WEEK

“God prepares us for a holy life, and God’s presence supports us as we step out and live fully as Christians. We can face the challenge of Christian discipleship through the presence and grace of God.”

- *Gennifer Benjamin Brooks*



Matthew 16:21-26

### Questions for Reflection —

- What does it look like for you to live a holy life? What does it mean for you to set your mind on divine things? What are the human things that distract you? What spiritual practices might help you to discern God’s perspective on whatever life circumstances you face? How can you live more fully and faithfully as a Christian?
  
- What challenges you in your life of discipleship? When have you been tempted to follow your own way instead of following God’s leading and guidance? What would it look like for you to allow your will and purpose to be directed by Christ? How can you live so as to reflect the self-giving love of Jesus?
  
- What has Christian discipleship “cost” you thus far? What would it look like for you to further deny yourself in order to follow Christ? What is it that is familiar and comfortable and might need to be set aside for the sake of new life in Christ? What will it take for you to be able to make such a sacrifice?

### Daily Household Prayer

Almighty God, in a world of change you placed eternity in our hearts  
and gave us power to discern good from evil.

Grant us sincerity,

that we may persistently seek the things that endure,  
refusing those which perish,

and that, amid things vanishing and deceptive,

we may see the truth steadily, follow the light faithfully,

and grow ever richer in that love which is the life of all people;

through Jesus Christ our Savior. Amen