



What If You Did Not  
Know You Are Lost?

Matthew 16:13-23

Luke 22:55-62

# Four tests Jesus has to determine if you have lost your way: Matthew 16:13-23

## Test #1: “Who do people say that the Son of Man is?” vs. 13-14

Are you influenced by other people’s beliefs?

- *John the Baptist*: Good man but tries to force his religious values on me. Matthew 14:1-5
- *Elijah*: Exciting miracles, great show but too intolerant. I Kings 18, 19
- *Jeremiah*: Good prophet but too negative and judgmental. Lamentations

# G. K. Chesterton

Fallacies do not cease to be fallacies  
because they become fashions.

# I Chronicles 12:32

Of the sons of Issachar, **men who understood the times, with knowledge of what Israel should do**, their chiefs were two hundred; and all their kinsmen were at their command.

## Test #2: “But who do you say that I am?”

vs. 15-20 Do you know the truth about Jesus?

*Simon Peter answered, “You are the Christ, the Son of the living God.” Vs. 16*

- Jesus is God. Isaiah 9:6; Jeremiah 23:5, 6; Micah 5:2
- Jesus is a Prophet. Luke 24:19; Acts 3:22
- Jesus is a Priest. Psalm 110:4; Romans 8:34;  
Hebrews 6:20; 7:23-25
- Jesus is a King. Psalm 2:6; Zechariah 9:9; Revelation 19:16

## Test #3 Do you understand and support My mission? Vs. 21-28

Vs. 21 From that time Jesus began to show His disciples that He must go to Jerusalem, and suffer many things from the elders and chief priests and scribes, and be killed, and be raised up on the third day. Peter took Him aside and began to rebuke Him, saying, "God forbid it, Lord! This shall never happen to You."

vs. 23 But He turned and said to Peter, "Get behind Me, Satan! You are a stumbling block to Me; for you are not setting your mind on God's interests, but man's."

## Test #3 Do you understand and support My mission? Vs. 21-28

I can choose man-centered interests: vs. 21-23

- I rebuke/reject God often because He does not know what He is doing.
- I should not have to suffer to achieve my will.
- I should have my needs met if God loves me.
- I would have my plans succeed if God would only agree with me rather than His plans.
- I see all this pain and suffering and doubt God is good or powerful.

## Test #3 Do you understand and support My mission? Vs. 21-28

Vs. 24 Then Jesus said to His disciples, “If anyone wishes to come after Me, he must deny himself, and take up his cross and follow Me. “For whoever wishes to save his life will lose it; but whoever loses his life for My sake will find it. “For what will it profit a man if he gains the whole world and forfeits his soul? Or what will a man give in exchange for his soul? “For the Son of Man is going to come in the glory of His Father with His angels, and will then repay every man according to his deeds. “Truly I say to you, there are some of those who are standing here who will not taste death until they see the Son of Man coming in His kingdom.”

# Test #3 Do you understand and support My mission? Vs. 21-28

I can commit to a Christ-centered mission: vs. 24-28

- Your man-centered interests are offensive to My mission.
- Your knowledge of Me means nothing if you do not follow and obey Me.
- You need to willingly deny your own interests to sacrifice your whole life for Me.
- You are lost if you are living only for what you can gain in this world.
- You will be held accountable for how you commit to My mission.
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# Thomas a Kempis

Jesus has many who love His kingdom in heaven, but few who bear His cross. He has many who desire comfort, but few who desire suffering. He finds many to share His feast, but few His fasting. All desire to rejoice with Him, but few are willing to suffer for His sake. Many follow Jesus to the breaking of bread, but few to the drinking of the cup of His passion. Many admire His miracles, but few follow Him in the humiliation of the cross.

**Final Exam: Passing each previous test  
better assures success on the final exam.**

Will you deny Him when life  
really gets tough?

Luke 22:55-62

## Luke 22:59-62

After about an hour had passed, another man began to insist, saying, "Certainly this man also was with Him, for he is a Galilean too." But Peter said, "Man, I do not know what you are talking about." Immediately, while he was still speaking, a rooster crowed. **The Lord turned and looked at Peter. And Peter remembered the word of the Lord, how He had told him, "Before a rooster crows today, you will deny Me three times."** And he went out and wept bitterly.

# Do I Deny Christ and His Mission?

- Deny Him with my faith where I doubt His love, and goodness so I reject His control for my life.
- Deny Him with my marriage, where I fall out of love and quit.
- Deny Him with my integrity where I cheat, lie, deceive, or cover up my sins.
- Deny Him with my finances, where I hold back, under-give in selfishness or greed.
- Deny Him in my worship where I am too busy and over-scheduled so I cheat Him with my corporate and personal worship.

# Dietrich Bonhoeffer

To deny oneself is to be aware only of Christ and no more of self, to see only Him who goes before and no more the road which is too hard for us. Once more, all that self-denial can say is:

“He leads the way, keep close to Him.”

## RESPONSE TIME

**Prayer** - There are people available to pray with at our prayer booth in the back.

**Communion** - We have elements of the bread and the cup as you remember Christ's death.

**Giving** - You may bring your gift of offering before the Lord to the stations.

**Faith Promise** - Commitment to give towards Missions for 2010/2011 and help reach the world for Jesus Christ.