

Follow: Finding New Life on Ancient Paths
Week #7 “The Way of Sacrifice”
2 Corinthians 5:14–15, Acts 8:36-38, Matthew 16:25, Romans 6:3-4
February 12, 2023
Speaker: Brad Williams
跟隨：舊規新隨
第七週 “犧牲之道”
哥林多後書 5:14-15, 使徒行傳 8:36-38, 馬太福音 16:25, 羅馬書 6:3-4
2023年2月12日
佈道：布拉德·威廉姆斯

Songs 敬拜

歌曲一：從早晨到夜晚 **Morning to Night**

詞：鄭懋柔 Tiffany M. Cheng 曲：游智婷 Sandy Yu © 2017 Stream of Praise Music / BMI. CCLI: 7125332 讚美之泉版權所有

早晨我睜開眼睛	從早晨到夜晚 從曠野到高山
渴望聆聽祢聲音	親愛主 我要稱頌祢美名
心中思想祢的好	從早晨到夜晚 祢愛永不止息
更多與祢來親近	親愛主 一生緊緊跟隨祢
夜晚我仍要歌唱	我的主 我愛祢
向祢闡明我心意	我要誇祢的愛無止盡
敬拜化成一首歌	我的主 我愛祢
單單要唱給祢聽	我要誇祢的愛無止盡

歌曲二：我心屬你/**REST ON US** 作詞/作曲：New Wine Worship 中譯詞：生命河基督教會

Verse

親愛聖靈 願祢降臨 甜美溫柔保惠師
Rest upon us Holy Spirit Sweet and gentle counselor
生命之主我尋求祢
Breath of God we seek your presence
渴望更多祢同在
'Cause what we've had is not enough

Chorus

如風吹進觸我心 如火煉淨燃我靈

Like a wind come move in us Like a fire purify
如馴良鴿子降臨
Like a dove descend on us
聖靈充滿在這裡 在我心直到滿溢
Rest until we overflow Rest until we overflow

Bridge
聖潔(尊貴)榮耀 從天降臨 更多充滿我生命
Let the weight of Your Glory Descend and rest upon me

歌曲三：一切全獻上 I Surrender All 演唱：Music of Ingrid

- | | |
|---|---|
| 1.
我將所有獻與耶穌 甘心樂意全奉獻
我要時常愛主靠主天天活在主面前
一切全獻上 一切全獻上
獻與愛我 尊貴救主 一切全獻上 | 3.
我將所有獻與耶穌我今完全獻與你
求主賜我愛心能力更賜我天上福祉
一切全獻上 一切全獻上
獻與愛我 尊貴救主 一切全獻上 |
| 2.
我將所有獻與耶穌謙卑俯伏主面前
世俗逸樂甘願撇棄求主悅納我心願
一切全獻上 一切全獻上
獻與愛我 尊貴救主 一切全獻上 | 4.
我將所有獻與耶穌 甘心樂意全奉獻
我要時常愛主靠主天天活在主面前
一切全獻上 一切全獻上
獻與愛我 尊貴救主 一切全獻上 |

Offering 奉獻

- Turkey, Syria, and FDR. 土耳其, 敘利亞和羅斯福

Announcements 事項報告

- Day Camp 2023 | Kids Team is available this week in the Commons to answer questions, etc. 2023 年夏令營日營 | 兒童事工團隊本週可在大堂諮詢等。
- Shelter Worship Night | This Wednesday, dinner @ 5:45pm, Worship @ 6:30 // [include heart of Shelter Worship Nights] 庇護所敬拜之夜 | 本週三, 晚餐時間下午5:45, 敬拜時間下午6:30// [包括庇護所敬拜之夜的核心]

Message 信息

- We started this year by engaging in a series of talks on practices or postures that lead us toward genuine life in Christ. 今年我們致力在一系列討論，是關於引導我們在基督裡過真實生活的實踐或態度。

- Ancient Paths that lead to new life in Christ. 通向基督裡新生活的古老道路。

- And when we talk about new life, we're talking about things like: 當我們談論新生活，我們指的是：

- Joy 喜樂
- Contentment 知足
- Meaning 意義
- Hope 希望

- So, we've talked about: 所以，我們討論了：

- Listening 傾聽
- Beauty 美麗
- Rest 安息
- Truth 真理
- Interdependence 相互依存
- Resilience. 韌性

- And now this week I'm going to dive into one that will require some counter-intuitive thinking on your part in order to actually walk this pathway. 這週我們將深入討論這個問題，你需要一些非本能的思考，才能真正走上這條道路。

- Because even when I say it, I have a feeling there's going to be some resistance that rises up inside of you. 因為即使我這麼說，我有一種感覺，你的內心會升起一些阻力。

- It's not a word most of us lean into. 這不是我們大多數人注重的一個詞。

- And there's a reason. 這是有原因的。

- The reason we don't like this word, is that we think that this word will undermine our happiness. 我們不喜歡這個詞的原因是，我們認為這個詞會破壞我們的幸福。

- And in our culture, we take our personal happiness very seriously. 在我們的文化裡，我們非常重視個人的幸福。

- See today we are talking about: 我們今天討論的是：

The Way of Sacrifice 犧牲之道

- And there probably isn't a more contradictory concept to our understanding of how we become happier, than the idea of personal sacrifice. 在我們對於如何變得更快樂的認知中，可能沒有比個人犧牲的想法更矛盾的了。

- So before we get too deep into the idea of Sacrifice, let's first talk about the idea of happiness. 所以，在我們深入探討犧牲的概念前，讓我們先討論幸福的概念。

- Here's a question I want you to ponder for a moment. 這是一個問題，我想讓你思考一下。

What is Happiness? 什麼是幸福？

- Think about that for a moment. 請你思考一下。
- What. is. happiness? 什麼 - 是 - 幸福？
- Interesting question, isn't it? 有趣的問題, 不是嗎？
- Given enough time we'd all agree on certain conclusions. 如果有足夠的時間, 我們都會同意某些結論。
 - Happiness is not an object. 幸福不是一個對象。
 - Happiness is not a place. 幸福不是一個地方。
 - Happiness is not monetary in nature. 幸福本質上不是金錢。
 - Happiness is a not person. 幸福不是一個人。
- Now, we chase those things, trying to DISCOVER happiness. 現今, 我們追逐那些東西, 試圖找到幸福。
 - We sometimes substitute those things FOR happiness. 有時我們用某些東西代替幸福。
 - But we're all smart enough to realize that those things are not the definition of happiness. 但是, 我們都聰明地意識到這些東西不是幸福的定義。
- *I recently had someone ask me if I was happy.* 最近有人問我是否快樂。
- *I said, "I think so."* 我說, “是的。”
- *That hung with me for a while: "I think so?"* 我過了一會兒: “我是的吧？”
- *If I'm happy, shouldn't I know it?* 如果我幸福, 我不應該知道嗎？
 - *In fact, if you're happy, and you know it, shouldn't you clap your hands?* 事實上, 如果你快樂, 你是知道的, 你不應該拍手嗎？
- See, Happiness is hard to pin down. 看, 幸福是很難確定的。
 - Happiness is elusive. 幸福是琢磨不定的。
 - Happiness has do with how we FEEEEEEEL. 幸福與我們的感覺有關。
- And happiness is something we p u r s u e. 幸福是我們追求的東西。
 - We chase it. 我們追逐它。
- There isn't one person in this room who doesn't, deep down, desire to be...HAPPY. 這個房間裡沒有一個人在內心深處不渴望...快樂。
 - So, what is happiness? 所以, 什麼是快樂？
- Well it's more than just laughter, right? 不僅僅是大笑, 對嗎？
 - And it's more than just a moment. 它不僅僅是一個片刻。
 - I've known plenty of people who laugh, that aren't happy. 我知道很多人笑, 但是不快樂。

- Happiness is a state, of being. 幸福是一種狀態。
 - It's a condition that defines us, for an extended period of time. 是存在很長一段時間，能定義我們的一種情形，
- And what is that condition? 那是什麼情形呢？
- If you were to boil it all down to its most basic meaning, Happiness is this: 如果你將它歸結為最基本的含義，幸福就是：
 - Happiness is when we experience more frequent positive emotions, such as joy, peace, or confidence, and less frequent negative emotions, such as sadness, anxiety, or anger. 幸福就是我們體驗到更頻繁的正面情緒，比如開心，平靜，或者自信，以及更少的消極情緒，比如悲傷，焦慮或者生氣。
- It doesn't mean that a person who is truly happy is never sad, or anxious, or angry. 這不意味著一個人真正快樂就沒有悲傷，或者焦慮，或者生氣。
- It simply means that in general terms, they are in a season where their experiences with those emotions are less frequent than their experiences with positive emotions. 這僅僅意味著，一般情況下，他們在其中體驗的情緒更多的是積極的情緒。
 - Joy. Peace. Laughter. 喜樂，平安，歡笑。
- That's happiness. 這是幸福。
- And it's what we all want. 這是我們都想要的。
- So here's another question I'll ask you, and maybe I'm meddling just a bit, but I care about you, so I'm going to ask it: 所以這有另外一個我想問的問題，也許我有點多管閒事，但是我關心你，所以我想問：

Are YOU Happy? 你快樂嗎？

- Are you happy? 你快樂嗎？
- Are your experiences of joy and peace and laughter and other positive emotions, greater than, your experiences of anger, anxiety, or sadness? 你體驗的喜樂、平安和歡笑這些積極的情緒大於你體驗的生氣、焦慮或者悲傷嗎？
 - Are you happy? 你快樂嗎？
- And let's say that most of us in the room answer that like I did a few weeks back: "I think so." 假設這裡大多數人都像我在幾個星期前回答的那樣：“我覺得是。”
- That answer would indicate that we could probably use a boost so that we might be able to answer it a bit more clearly, right? 那種回答表明我們還可以再提升一點讓我們回答得更清楚明白些，對嗎？
 - I mean, let's be honest. 我的意思是說實話。

- If I say, “I think so” there’s a high likelihood that I must be teetering someplace in the middle? 如果我說，“我認為是”，那麼我很有可能在中間某個地方還搖擺不定。
- Or I’m actually sad and just too prideful or religious to admit I’m not happy. Right? 或者我實際上很難過，只是太驕傲或者太虔誠以至於我無法承認我不快樂。對嗎？
- So let’s say that we could all be a bit happier. Let’s assume we all need to move up a couple of ticks on the happiness graph and have a few more experiences with positive emotions. 所以假設我們可以更快樂一些。假設我們在幸福的刻盤上向上移動幾個刻度，有更多積極情緒的體驗。
 - Would anyone else like to join me be a bit happier? 其他人願意和我一起快樂一點嗎？
 - Let’s get on with The pursuit of happiness. 讓我們一起追求幸福。
- Which brings up another question that I want you to consider. 這帶出來另外一個我希望你考慮的問題。
- Given what we’ve just said about happiness being a state of being, and a particular kind of state of being, think about this: 剛才我們說幸福就是一種狀態，一種特殊的狀態，考慮一下：

How do we increase our happiness? 我們怎樣才能更快樂？

- Do we need more objects? 我們需要更多的東西？
 - A better place to be? 更好的地方？
 - A different job? 換一個工作？
 - More money? 更有錢？
 - Some physical experience? 一些身體鍛煉？
 - Something romantic? 一段戀情？
 - Something sexual? 一種性關係？
 - Something chemical? 一種化學反應？
- We already said that those things aren’t happiness, but, could we formulate the right concoction of these things, could we get the right mixture of these things, put them in the right order, in the right amounts and THEN be bit more happy? 我們已經說過這些事不是快樂。但是，我們可不可以找到一個合適的配方，把一些東西合適地混在一起，按照正確的順序，正確的數量，然後就會產生更大的快樂？
- Isn’t it interesting that when I say it like that, we all see those things for what they are. 有趣的是，當我這樣說一件事，我們就會看到那些事本來的模樣。
- Fleeting. Fading. Fantasy. 飄忽而去，越來越遠，一個幻想。
- But for some reason, conscious or unconscious, when we want to be ‘happier’ that’s where we (at least those of us who aren’t perfect) tend to go. 但是不論是有意識的或是無意識的原因，當我們希望更快樂，我們就朝那個方向去(至少是我們這種不完美的人)。
 - We know it doesn’t sound right. 我們知道這好像不對。
 - But it’s just what we do. 但這恰恰是我們做的。

- And almost NO ONE when they think about increasing happiness thinks, ‘I know what I need! I need to SACRIFICE.’ 但是幾乎沒有人會在想要更快樂的時候會想, “我知道我需要什麼! 我需要做出犧牲。”
- And yet it’s central to the way of Jesus. 這恰恰是耶穌之路的核心。
- Listen to these words of Paul on the anchoring principle of Christianity. 讓我們來聽一下保羅的話 ---- 這是深植與基督信仰的原則之中的。

2 Corinthians 5:14–15 哥林多後書 5:14–15

For the love of Christ controls us, because we have concluded this: that one has died for all, therefore all have died; 15 and he died for all, that those who live might no longer live for themselves but for him who for their sake died and was raised.

原来基督的爱激励我们, 因我们想一人既替众人死, 众人就都死了。15 并且他替众人死, 是叫那些活着的人, 不再为自己活, 乃为替他们死而复活的主活。

- He’s talking about how the love and sacrifice of Jesus become the new operational principles for our lives. 他在說的是耶穌的愛與犧牲如何成為我們生活的全新的生活指南的。
- And then, think about two of the key symbols of Christian life? 然後, 想一想基督徒生活的重要標誌:
 - Think about Baptism 想一想洗禮
 - Think about the Cross 想一想十字架
- They are point to the idea of sacrifice. 它們代表的是犧牲。
 - And they aren’t simply symbols. 它們不是簡單的標誌。
- They are the defining reality of how we actually LIVE OUT this life in Jesus. 它們是定義我們如何真實地活出耶穌的生命的實質。
- They are as much pattern as they are symbol. 它們與其說是標誌, 不如說特徵。
- So let’s talk about them for a moment. 所以讓我們來談一下它們。
- Now. Admittedly. Baptism is a fairly unusual practice. 現在, 可以承認的是, 洗禮不是很常見的操作。
- *I love water — in a just about any form - lakes, pools, rivers, ocean.* 我喜歡水 — 任何形式的水-- 湖泊, 水塘, 河流, 海洋。
 - *I’m a water person.* 我是愛水的人。
 - *But there are two things I hate.* 但是我討厭兩件事。
 - *First, I hate being splashed.* 首先, 我討厭被水濺到。
 - *No one likes being splashed.* 沒有人喜歡被水濺到。
 - *So, you splashers remember that next time you go to splash someone.* 所以, 你們愛拍水的人記得下一次去拍水濺別人。
 - *No one likes that.* 沒人喜歡那個。
 - *So stop it.* 所以還是別再做了吧。
 - *Because if you keep it up, people will also not like you.* 因為如果你繼續這樣做, 別人會

討厭你。

- *The second thing I hate, and yes, I am fully aware that this stems from a pool party in Jr. high where a young lady named Erin failed to fully comprehend the human need for oxygen, held me underwater so long that I literally began to pray to God for help...the second thing I hate is being dunked.* 我討厭的第二件事，是的，我始終記得在初中時，在一個游泳池旁的一個聚會裡，我被一個叫艾琳的女孩兒因為忘記了人對氧氣的需要，把我按在水裡很長時間，以至於我不禁開始向神禱告，祈求幫助...我討厭的第二件事就是被壓在水下。
- *And, by the way, I don't think I'm alone in that.* 順便說一下，我想我並不是唯一這樣想的。

- Which brings us back to the oddity of baptism. 讓我們看看洗禮的古怪。
- Why in the world would a person get in front of a group of hundreds of people and allow themselves to be dunked in a tank of water? 為什麼在這世界上要有人在上百人面前要容許別人把他浸在一缸水裡。
- Which, by the way, we are doing baptisms on Easter Sunday this year, so if your interested in being baptized that day, you can sign up at the info center or online. 順便說一下，我們今年在復活節有洗禮，如果你想要在那天受洗，你可以在信息中心或者在網上報名。
- BUT, If you've ever wondered what this is all about, you're not alone. 但是，如果你想要明白為什麼要這麼做，你並不是唯一這樣想的人。
- A lot of people wonder what Baptism is all about. 很多人想知道洗禮為什麼是這樣的。
- There's this event, or story, referred to as THE EXODUS. 這個事件，或者說故事，要回到《出埃及記》。
- The Book of Genesis, the first book in our Bible, ends with the story of Jacob going down to Egypt with his family. 《創世紀》，《聖經》裡的第一本書，在結尾講到了雅各和他的全家下到埃及。
- This small clan is the beginning of the nation of Israel. 這個小小的家族將要成為以色列這個國家。
- But, when we turn to the first chapter of Exodus, the second book of the Bible, it tells how the 70 members of Jacob's clan evolved into a large people, who are then cruelly enslaved by the kings of Egypt. 但是，當我們翻到《出埃及記》的第一章，《聖經》裡的第二本書，那裡講到了雅各全家70人在埃及怎樣發展成一個大族，在那裡他們又被埃及法老殘忍對待，成為奴隸。
- So, here they are as a people, oppressed for several centuries, until Moses, who grows up in the home of Pharaoh, even has an Egyptian name, rises up to rescue them. 所以，他們成為一個大族，被壓迫了幾個世紀，直到摩西的到來，他在法老的家裡長大，甚至還有一個埃及名字，是從水里被拯救的意思。
- In Exodus chapter 12, Moses begins to lead them to freedom in the name of God. 在《出埃及記》的第十二章，摩西開始帶領他們奉神的名走向自由。
- There's a series of plagues. 然後有一系列的災。
- There's an event called passover. 有一個事件叫逾越節。
- And then, there's this moment where the people of Egypt demand that the Israelites depart their land - so they free them. 到後來，終於埃及人要求以色列人從他們的地方離開，-- 也就是，他們釋放了以色列人，給了他們自由。
- Shortly after this, they change their mind, and they begin to pursue them. 在這以後不久，埃及人改變了主意，他們又開始追趕以色列人。
- So catch the imagery here. 想想這個畫面。
 - They are enslaved. 他們被迫成為奴隸。

- They want to escape. 他們想逃脫。
 - And about the moment they are free, the tables turn and they are desperate. 就在他們獲得自由的時刻，又反轉了，他們陷在絕望裡。
 - Does this sound familiar in any way? 這聽起來是不是很熟悉？
- Then, in Exodus 14, they find themselves pinned between the Red Sea and Pharaoh's army. 然後，在《出埃及記》的第十四章，他們發現他們被卡在了紅海和法老的軍隊之間。
 - If you've seen the Disney movie prince of Egypt, or if you grew up in church, then you know what happens next. 如果你看過迪士尼的電影《埃及王子》，或者你在教會長大，你就知道下面會發生什麼了。
 - The sea is parted, the people pass through, and when the Egyptians pursue the sea closes in on them and they all perish. 海分開了，以色列人從海中過去，但是當埃及人追來時，海在他們上面合上了，他們全都淹死了。
 - Are you with me so far? 你們還跟得上我嗎？
 - This crossing, later, is referred to as 'the baptism of Moses' 這個穿過紅海，後來，被稱為 '摩西的洗禮'。
 - The water symbolized their passing from slavery to freedom. 水象徵着他們從奴隸脫離成為自由。
 - The water symbolized their rescue from a life of bondage. 水象徵着他們從生活的捆綁中被解救出來。
 - The water symbolized the death of the old and the birth in the new. 水象徵着舊的死去，新的出生。
 - So we shouldn't be surprised when we open the New Testament and we find John the Baptist down by the Jordan River bringing people through the Jordan, symbolically reenacting the Exodus. 所以，當我們在《新約》中看到施洗約翰在約旦河給人施洗，我們不用感到吃驚，這是出埃及的重演。
 - Baptism is a picture of exodus. 洗禮是出埃及的情景。
 - He was ushering in this new age. 約翰在服事於新的一代。
 - People were tired of the bondage of the Romans. 人們受夠了羅馬人的束縛。
 - They were tired of their slavery. 他們受夠了被奴役。
 - So John was inviting people to return to God by returning to the imagery of the exodus. 所以約翰邀請人們通過回到出埃及記的意象來回歸神。
 - And the whole picture of entering into this new life was seen as passing or death to the old life. 進入新生活的整個畫面被視為舊生活的過去或死亡。
 - A sacrifice. 獻祭。
 - No one - not even John the Baptist, saw what was about to happen next. 沒有人——甚至施洗約翰也沒有看到接下來將要發生的事情。
 - Fast forward to the crucifixion, our other symbol or pattern for living. 快進到十字架，這是我們生活的另一個像徵或模式。

- The crucifixion always meant humiliation. 釘十字架總是意味著屈辱。
 - The crucifixion always meant you lost everything. 被釘十字架總是意味著你失去了一切。
 - The crucifixion always ended in death. 釘十字架總是以死亡告終。
 - Until Jesus. 直到耶穌。
- For the first time, the crucifixion didn't end in death. 第一次, 釘十字架沒有以死亡告終。
- For the first time, the crucifixion ended in a resurrection. 第一次, 釘十字架以復活告終。
 - A new life. 新的生命。
 - A different life. 不同的生命。
- Jesus was buried. (act out the lowering of someone in baptism) And then he was raised (act out the raising of someone in baptism) 耶穌被埋葬了。(對應的洗禮中某人在漸漸沉下)然後他復活(對應在洗禮中某人重新起來)。
 - And suddenly this symbol that people had been participating in for generations took on an entirely new meaning. 突然間, 這個世代相傳的標誌有了全新的含義。
- So then, after this, we read, In the book of Acts that on a road leaving Jerusalem, there's an African asking questions about Jesus, hearing the significance of Isaiah's words explained in a language he can understand. 那麼, 在這之後, 我們讀到, 在使徒行傳中, 在離開耶路撒冷的路上, 有一個非洲人問關於耶穌的問題, 聽到用他能理解的語言解釋以賽亞的話的意義
 - It makes so much sense to the eunuch that as he and Philip pass a body of water, the eunuch asks if he can be baptized. 當那個太監和菲利普經過一塘水時, 太監很自然而然地問他是否可以受洗。

Acts 8:36-38

And as they were going along the road they came to some water, and the eunuch said, "See, here is water! What prevents me from being baptized?" 38 And he commanded the chariot to stop, and they both went down into the water, Philip and the eunuch, and he baptized him.

使徒行傳 8:36-38

36 二人正往前走, 到了有水的地方, 太監說: 看哪, 這裡有水, 我受洗有甚麼妨礙呢? (有古卷在此有:

37 腓利說: 你若是一心相信, 就可以。他回答說: 我信耶穌基督是神的兒子。)

38 於是吩咐車站住, 腓利和太監二人同下水裡去, 腓利就給他施洗。

- And what is he saying? 他在說什麼?
- I want to experience the exodus, I want to encounter the freedom, That comes when I die, and and am raised to a new kind of life. 我想經歷出埃及記, 我想遇到自由, 那是我死後會來到的自由, 然後復活到一種新的生命中。
- He wants to enter into Jesus' death and resurrection. 他想進入耶穌的死和復活。
- He's choosing the sacrificial life. 他選擇了犧牲的生活。
- And his baptism is a symbolic statement of his entering into that life. 他的洗禮是他進入那種生活的象徵性聲明。

- Did you catch that? 你明白了嗎？
- When a person decides to follow Jesus, they don't get a cross to wear. 當一個人決定跟隨耶穌時，他們不是去得到一條十字架項鍊。
 - They don't get a bumper sticker for their car. 或者是汽車保險槓貼紙。
 - They don't get a membership card. 或者是某種會員卡。
 - There isn't a contract that you sign, or secret handshake and now you're in. 沒有你需要簽署的合同，或是一個秘密握手，然後你就加入了。
 - There's no test to pass. 沒有要通過的測試。
 - None of that stuff. 沒有那些東西。
- When a person decides to be a follower of Jesus, they take their physical body and they engage in a symbolic act that says, "See this person, do you see me? 當一個人決定成為耶穌的追隨者時，他們進行這個象徵性的行為/儀式，即“看到這個人，你看到我了嗎？
 - This person has died. It is no longer I who live." 這個人已經死了。活著的不再是我。”
 - There's a death. 有死亡。
 - Following Jesus means you die. 跟隨耶穌意味著你死了。
 - There's no other way to understand it. 沒有其他方式可以理解它。
- I believe this is fundamentally the most misunderstood aspect of what it means to be a follower of Jesus. 我相信這基本上是對成為耶穌的跟隨者最容易誤解的方面。
 - Because THIS, this kind of thinking is exactly the opposite, it is diametrically opposed, to the way our culture thinks and operates. 因為這，這種思維與我們文化的思維和運作方式完全相反，截然相反。
 - It is completely the opposite of the way we are wired to think. Which explains why so few people actually experience the spirituality of Jesus. 這與我們的思維方式完全相反。這就解釋了為什麼很少有人真正體驗到耶穌的靈性。
- And yet it was Jesus who said, 然而耶穌說，

Matthew 16:25

For whoever would save his life will lose it, but whoever loses his life for my sake will find it.

馬太福音 16:25

25 因為，凡要救自己生命（生命：或作靈魂；下同）的，必喪掉生命；凡為我喪掉生命的，必得著生命。

- So, what does it mean to lose you life? 那麼，失去生命意味著什麼？
- It means every piece of who we define ourselves to be...Dies. 這意味著我們定義的自己的每一部分.....都會死去。

- And then is raised to new life. 然後得到新生。
- It means our AMBITION Dies. 這意味著我們的雄心壯志消亡。
 - For money, fame and power - it dies. 為了金錢、名譽和權力——它死去了。
 - My ambition for things that make “Brad” great...all die on the cross. 我對讓“布拉德”變得偉大的抱負.....都死在了十字架上。
 - And now I strive for things that will make Jesus famous. 現在我努力做能讓耶穌出名的事情。
 - It means our GOALS die. 這意味著我們的目標死了。
 - Maybe your goal is to get that promotion, to retire comfortably, or to leave a legacy of wealth. 也許你的目標是升職、舒適地退休或留下一筆財富。
 - Maybe you said, “Next year we’re going to go here, or go there.” 也許你說, “明年我們會去這裡, 或者去那裡。”
 - But now it’s to serve strategically, live sacrificially, and leave a legacy of loving Jesus. 但現在是有策略地服務, 犧牲地生活, 並留下愛耶穌的口碑。
 - Maybe instead of asking “what can we gain in the next 18 months”, it becomes “what can we give.” Goals die. And are resurrected. 也許不是問“我們在接下來的 18 個月裡能得到什麼”, 而是問“我們能付出什麼”。目標死了。然後被神複活了。
- Losing our life for the sake of Christ means we now live lives of SACRIFICE. 為了基督而失去生命意味著我們現在過著祭性的生活。
- As people living in 2023 we have a huge range of different “purposes,” right?! 作為生活在 2023 年的人們, 我們有很多不同的“意義”, 對吧?!
 - To be a good husband, to be a good friend, to go to college, get a degree, get a job and make money, to have a family and raise children. 做一個好丈夫, 做一個好朋友, 上大學, 拿學位, 工作賺錢, 成家養子。
 - None of those are inherently bad... 這些本來也都不是壞事.....
 - But when we look to Jesus’ life we see that there’s something larger, more profound, and far more defining than any of these. 但是當我們審視耶穌的生活時, 我們會發現有比這些都更宏大、更深刻、更具決定性的事情。
 - Jesus’ life led to the cross. 耶穌的生命走到了十字架。
 - He sacrificed. 他獻上了自己。
 - Not for his own elevation or status, but as the ultimate sacrifice...the ultimate servant. 不是為了他自己的提升或地位, 而是作為最終的獻祭.....最終的僕人。
- And that becomes our overarching purpose. 這成為我們的全局首要意義。

- For most of our culture, our MEANING is derived from the idea that “I want my life to last beyond myself.” 對於我們的大多數文化，我們的意義源自“我希望我的生命超越自我”這一理念。
 - I have to leave a legacy for my life to matter. 我必須留下一點紀念讓我的一生值得。
 - But dying to myself means I’m freed from that...I don’t have to worry about doing enough to matter or to be remembered. 但是讓‘我’死去意味著我從中解脫了……我不必擔心做得不夠值得或被人記住。
- Losing our life for the sake of Christ means our understanding of WISDOM dies. 為基督而失去生命意味著我們對智慧的理解死掉了。
- In 1Corinthians Paul says that to the world, the cross is foolishness. 在哥林多前書保羅說，在世人看來，十字架是愚昧。
 - It’s not just something people don’t understand, it’s something people look at and mock...and ridicule. 這不僅僅是人們不理解的事情，它是人們看著嘲笑…並覺得荒謬的事情。
- Which means the life of sacrifice will not make sense to the world. 這意味著獻祭的人生對世界不可理解。
- We can talk about where we get advice, how we make decisions, the way we approach others - all of it shifts. 我們可以談論從哪裡獲得建議、如何做出決定、與他人打交道的方式——所有這些都會發生變化。
- All of those things that we lean on for ultimate direction and meaning, they are changed. 所有這些我們所依賴的最終方向和意義的東西，都發生了變化。
- By the way, this isn’t easy. 順便說一句，這並不容易。
 - There’s a reason it’s referred to as a death. 它被稱為死亡是有原因的。
 - When you serve instead of being served. 當你服事而不是被服事時。
 - When you give instead of receiving. 當你給予而不是接受。
 - When you squash your selfish desires. 當你壓住自己的私慾時。
 - When you quit making it about you. 當你不再全都為了你而做事情時。
 - It. Isn’t. Easy. It feels like a death. 這不簡單。會感覺如同死去。
- But the good news? 好消息呢？
 - On the other side, there is a resurrection. 另一頭，是重生。
- Paul, writing to the church at Rome, said this: 保羅，在寫給羅馬教會的書信中，這樣說：

Romans 6:3-4

Do you not know that all of us who have been baptized into Christ Jesus were baptized into his death? 4 We were buried therefore with him by baptism into death, in order that, just as Christ was raised from the dead by the glory of the Father, we too might walk in newness of life.

羅馬書6:3-4

3 豈不知我們這受洗歸入基督耶穌的人，是受洗歸入他的死麼。

4 所以我們藉著洗禮歸入死、和他一同埋葬。原是叫我們一舉一動有新生的樣式，像基督藉著父的榮耀，從死裡復活一樣。

- Did you catch that last part? 你注意最後一句了嗎？
- That we TOO. 我們也可以。
 - That, we, in the SAME way that Jesus was raised. 我們，以與耶穌復活相同的方式。
 - That WE might walk in NEWNESS OF LIFE. 我們走在新生的樣式。
 - Does it mean things are easy, no. 這說明事情容易了嗎？沒有。
 - You still have to figure some things out. But we're different. 你還是要自己體會做事。但是我們根本不同了。
- We've been liberated from all of the things that could hold us back, or hold us down. God has promised that he would do a new thing—and this is how he's doing it. See, 我們已經從所有可能拖住我們或阻擋我們的事物中解放出來。神應許祂會做一件新事——祂就是這樣做的。看，

Sacrifice isn't the end your life. 犧牲不是你的人生終結。
Sacrifice is the beginning of new life. 犧牲是一個新生命的開始。

- When you decide to sacrifice your time, your energy, your money, your life...when you give it away, THAT is when you are surprised by joy, and hope, and meaning and purpose. 當你決定犧牲你的時間、你的精力、你的金錢、你的生命.....當你放棄它時，那就是當你對喜悅、希望、意義和目的感到驚訝的時候。
- In other words, a life that is being shaped by sacrifice, is a life that characterized by the very things our hearts are longing for. 換句話說，一種由犧牲塑造的生活，是一種以我們內心渴望的事物為特徵的生活。
- When Israel got on the other other side of the red sea...When Jesus walked out of the empty tomb...It was the beginning of a new life. 當以色列人到達紅海的另一邊時.....當耶穌走出空墳墓時.....那是新生命的開始。
 - No one in Israel stood on the other side and said, "It's all over." No one saw the resurrected Jesus and said, "This is the end." 以色列沒有人站在另一邊說，“一切都結束了。” 沒有人看到復活的耶穌說：“這就是結局。”
 - They all knew. 他們都知道。
 - This. is. just. the. Beginning. 這 - 只是 - 開始。
- *Illustration: The JoyDave and Shiela, Shannon* 舉例：快樂的戴維，希拉和香楠
 - *As our recent mission team returned from our trip to Cambodia and Nepal, I was struck with something beautiful as it relates to this conversation of sacrifice.* 最近當我們宣教團隊從柬埔寨和尼泊爾之行返回時，我被從一次與犧牲相關的對話中感到的美好所震撼。
 - *Our friends in these places are living without many of comforts and controls that would*

integrate into our lives to generate further happiness. 我們在那些地方的朋友生活沒有多少舒適和掌握，而這樣的情形融入他們的生活卻產生更多的幸福。

- *They live in some tough places and in some rough conditions.* 他們生活在一些艱苦的地方和一些惡劣的條件下。

- *Like, as much as I like a good dirt road, pavement is pretty convenient.* 譬如，儘管我喜歡一條整齊的土路，但人行道還是很方便的。

- *Dependable electricity? Turns out, I like that.* 有保障的電力？事實證明，我喜歡它。

- *Along with recognizable food, and predictable water sources.* 連同可識別的食物和可預測的水源。

- *I couldn't help be faced with the reality that these friends of ours live in places that have required specific, and intentional sacrifices.* 我忍不住要面對這樣一個現實，即我們這些朋友生活在需要明確的、有意識的犧牲的地方。

- *And yet there is a joy in them, a true happiness that is tangibly present.* 然而，他們內心有一種快樂，一種真實存在的真正幸福。

- *And it was crystal clear for me to see the why.* 而我能清清楚楚地看到了原因。

- *And it was the best reminder I could have received.* 這是我能收到的最好的提醒。

- But I was also reminded of this. 但我也被提醒到這一點。

- You don't have to live in the developing world to live a life of sacrifice. 你不必生活在發展中國家才能過上犧牲的生活。

- That, it turns out, can be lived, right, here. 事實證明，可以在這裡生活。

- Which really leaves with some question: 這真的留下了一些問題：

- In what areas of my life am I courageously moving toward increased personal sacrifice for the sake of Christ? 我在生活的哪些方面勇敢地為基督的緣故做出了更多的個人犧牲？

- Am I growing in sacrifice, or am I resisting it? 我是在犧牲中成長，還是在抗拒它？

- And where are the places where I could lean in, and let go of more? 我可以著重在什麼地方，放手更多？

- And one more, and I know this might be over simplifying things a bit, but, are you happy? 還有一個，我知道這可能有點過於簡化了，但是，你開心嗎？

- Will you stand? 請大家起立好嗎？

Benediction 祝禱

- May you be men and women who willingly and lovingly lean into personal sacrifice. 願弟兄姊妹成為自願和充滿愛心地做出個人犧牲的人。

- And may you discover that there is meaning, and hope, and joy when you lose your life for the sake of Jesus. 當你為耶穌的緣故而失去生命時，願你發現意義、希望和快樂。