

YOUTH Discipleship Guide

Message Title: **"Say You Won't Let Go"**
Series: "Actin' Up" | Week of May 14-20, 2017

Main Thought:

Commitment is a word that may be intimidating for some. Jesus commands His disciples to deny themselves, and for us to pick up our cross, meaning our commitment to Him as disciples will not always be easy. We can commit ourselves to Christ regardless of hardship because we know Christ committed to us by enduring the cross. As we commit and persevere God promises to give us the strength to finish strong.

Main Passages:

"For God so loved the world that he gave his one and only Son, that whoever believes in him shall not perish but have eternal life." (John 3:16)

*"Then Jesus said to his disciples, 'Whoever wants to be my disciple must deny themselves and take up their cross and follow me. ²⁵For whoever wants to save their life will lose it, but whoever loses their life for me will find it. ²⁶What good will it be for someone to gain the whole world, yet forfeit their soul?'"
(Matthew 16:24-26)*

"The Lord is my shepherd, I lack nothing. ²He makes me lie down in green pastures, he leads me beside quiet waters, ³he refreshes my soul. He guides me along the right paths for his name's sake. ⁴Even though I walk through the darkest valley, I will fear no evil, for you are with me; your rod and your staff, they comfort me. ⁵You prepare a table before me in the presence of my enemies. You anoint my head with oil; my cup overflows. ⁶Surely your goodness and love will follow me all the days of my life, and I will dwell in the house of the Lord forever." (Psalm 23:1-6)

Discussion Questions:

What is one thing you've started that you haven't finished? What is one thing that you want to commit to?

Higher:

In what ways can we deny ourselves in order to stay committed to Christ? How do you think that will strengthen your relationship with God?

Deeper:

According to scripture, how did Christ commit His life to us? What does He promise as we choose to commit to Jesus?

Wider:

Who is someone you can commit to reaching out to? Keep in mind, the word commit means to be consistent and ongoing despite the difficulties.