

# “Forks in the Road of Life”

Based on Matthew 16:24-25 (NIV)

August 27, 2017

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*Matthew 16:24a - “Then Jesus said to his disciples, “Whoever wants to be my disciple must deny themselves ...”*

† **A true follower of Jesus is a disciple.**

† **To deny means “to give something up.”**

† **To deny oneself means to stop seeing my own selfish ambitions and seeing what God wants from me.**

*Matthew 16:24b - “... and take up their cross ...”*

† **When Jesus took up his cross, he gave himself, his life, for others.**

† **When I take up my cross, it means to give of myself for others.**

*Matthew 16:24c - “... and follow me.”*

† **In life, I am to follow “The Leader” - Jesus the Christ.**

† **God has placed within me the guidance of the Holy Spirit for making decisions in my life.**

*Matthew 16:25 - For whoever wants to save their life will lose it, but whoever loses their life for me will find it.”*

† **“For whoever wants to save their (earthly) life will lose their (eternal) life, but whoever loses their (earthly) life for Christ will find (eternal) life.”**

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† **The choice I make on the forks in the road of life determine what happens next.**

† **In life, there are really only two choices – I choose to follow God’s (the eternal) way or Satan’s (the earthly) way.**

## **Applying Today’s Message to My Life:**

† Who has denied themselves (gave something up) for me?

† Who have I denied myself (gave something up) for?

† If there is a decision for me to make, how do I arrive at what “road” to take?

† When have I made wrong turns in my road of life?  
- How did God lead me back to Him?

† When have I made correct turns on my road of life?

† What is one more way I can follow Christ’s advise and give of myself, chose to do good, for someone this week?