



Church at Home for Abridge 30th August 2020

Matthew 16: 21-28

Further resources
for worship and reflection

Read through the Bible passage again, slowly, pausing after each verse, giving yourself space to imagine being there, listening in on this important conversation between Christ and Peter. What new questions, doubts, insights and surprises come to you?

Find the passage [here from Bible Gateway](#).

[Here is a reflective song](#) that is based on today's Bible passage

A poem about Peter by Malcolm Guite

Impulsive master of misunderstanding
You comfort me with all your big mistakes;
Jumping the ship before you make the landing,
Placing the bet before you know the stakes.
I love the way you step out without knowing,
The way you sometimes speak before you think,
The way your broken faith is always growing,
The way he holds you even when you sink.
Born to a world that always tried to shame you,
Your shaky ego vulnerable to shame,
I love the way that Jesus chose to name you,
Before you knew how to deserve that name.
And in the end your Saviour let you prove
That each denial is undone by love.



Some quotations and thoughts about the cross

'**All God's plans** have the mark of the cross on them, and all His plans have death to self in them'.

E. M Bounds

The Cross is all around us

A: *But you didn't tell us about the cross and resurrection, Lord!*

B: Oh, but I did...

It is all around...

in the seed that is buried, but which grows into a flower
in the sun that sets, but which becomes a new dawn
in the leaf that falls, but which enriches the earth
in the candle that burns, but which brings light to the room
in the perfume that is poured out, but whose fragrance fills the house
in the losings of everyday that end in a finding again.

A: *Oh, we should have noticed...*

'**It is to the Cross** that the Christian is challenged to follow his Master: no path of redemption can make a detour around it.'

Hans Urs von Balthasar, *Unless You Become Like This Child*

