

Introduction

How has Jesus been glorified? [Luke 9:18-36](#) is a mixture of evidence of Jesus's glory **and** how we might respond to His glory. We glorify Christ by confessing He is Lord. We glorify Christ by fully devoting ourselves to Him.

Peter's confession

[Luke 9:18-20](#) "18 Now it happened that as he was praying alone, the disciples were with him. And he asked them, "Who do the crowds say that I am?" 19 And they answered, "John the Baptist. But others say, Elijah, and others, that one of the prophets of old has risen." 20 Then he said to them, "But who do you say that I am?" And Peter answered, "The Christ of God."

What was Jesus doing leading up to this conversation? [Luke 9:18](#) "... he was praying alone, the disciples were with him ..." This conversation happened in Caesarea Philippi ([Matt 16:13](#); [Mark 9:17](#)). This city was at the base of Mount Hermon, 25 miles north of the Sea of Galilee and 40 miles southwest of Damascus [Algie, *Lexham Bible Dictionary*].

What three people did the crowds say Jesus might be? [Luke 9:19](#) "... John the Baptist. But others say, Elijah, and others, that one of the prophets of old has risen." This is the same report given to Herod Agrippa in [Luke 9:7-8](#) "7 Now Herod the tetrarch heard about all that was happening, and he was perplexed, because it was said by some that John had been raised from the dead, 8 by some that Elijah had appeared, and by others that one of the prophets of old had risen."

*Who did **Peter** say Jesus was?* [Luke 9:20](#) "... The Christ of God." Jesus responded in [Matthew 16:17](#) "17 And Jesus answered him, "Blessed are you, Simon Bar-Jonah! For flesh and blood has not revealed this to you, but my Father who is in heaven." Peter's confession may not be complete, but it is correct. His confession demonstrates genuine faith.

Jesus's death

[Luke 9:21-22](#) "21 And he strictly charged and commanded them to tell this to no one, 22 saying, "The Son of Man must suffer many things and be rejected by the elders and chief priests and scribes, and be killed, and on the third day be raised."

What things did Jesus say would happen to him? [Luke 9:22](#) "... The Son of Man must suffer many things and be rejected by the elders and chief priests and scribes, and be killed, and on the third day be raised."

How did this contrast with Messianic expectations in Judaism? The Jews mostly expected a political Messiah who would rule over Israel forever, including living forever ([John 12:34](#)).

Disciples of Jesus

[Luke 9:23-25](#) “23 And he said to all, “If anyone would come after me, let him deny himself and take up his cross daily and follow me. 24 For whoever would save his life will lose it, but whoever loses his life for my sake will save it. 25 For what does it profit a man if he gains the whole world and loses or forfeits himself?”

What three things did Jesus say a person must do to come after Him? [Luke 9:23](#) “... If anyone would come after me, let him deny himself and take up his cross daily and follow me.”

In light of [Luke 9:22](#), what does it mean to take up your cross and follow Jesus? Crucifixion was reserved for the worst criminals, including those who led rebellions against Rome (e.g., Spartacus). The disciples still expected some form of political salvation (see [Acts 1:6](#)). If Jesus was killed for being the Messiah, taking your cross and following Him would mean going with Him to be crucified with Him.

What is the outcome if someone chooses to save himself instead of deny himself? [Luke 9:24-25](#) “For whoever would save his life will lose it, but whoever loses his life for my sake will save it. 25 For what does it profit a man if he gains the whole world and loses or forfeits himself?” Jim Elliot said, “He is no fool who gives what he cannot keep to gain what he cannot lose.” Jim Elliot laid down his life for the sake of the gospel.

[Luke 9:26-27](#) “26 For whoever is ashamed of me and of my words, of him will the Son of Man be ashamed when he comes in his glory and the glory of the Father and of the holy angels. 27 But I tell you truly, there are some standing here who will not taste death until they see the kingdom of God.””

How will Christ treat those who are ashamed of Him? [Luke 9:26](#) “For whoever is ashamed of me and of my words, of him will the Son of Man be ashamed when he comes in his glory and the glory of the Father and of the holy angels.” Jesus’s point is that whoever is unwilling to **confess** Him **and** be **devoted** to Him does not have genuine faith. Faith is more than profession; it includes belief, love, and devotion.

Conclusion

In response to Jesus’s glory, we should devote ourselves fully to Christ. *What does it mean to follow Christ?* It means that we do not live for ourselves. We lay down our lives for the sake of Christ and His word. Following Christ without sacrificing self is not following Christ. We **glorify** Christ by devoting ourselves fully to Him.