



Wanting Control

You're Not the BOSS of Me.

Luke 9:23-25

The Bottom Line: Jesus is Savior and **LORD**.

Welcome Verse: Philippians 2:9-11

Introduction:

Everyone wants control of something.

And ... When we can't control, we worry, explode, or pout, which are all forms of manipulation to get control of an outcome, a person, or both.

Tension:

And ... that's part of the problem, isn't it? We want control, but we just can't seem to quite get it. So, James, the brother of Jesus, wrote ...

James 4:1-2, "What causes fights and quarrels among you? Don't they come from your desires that battle within you? You want something but don't get it. You kill and covet, but you cannot have what you want. You quarrel and fight."

Referenced: Genesis 3:16

Truth:

Why are we talking about this today? We're speaking of this because there's a very common misconception in the church today. Many people believe they can keep control of their lives and just have Jesus as Savior.

When people realize their sin, they finally understand their desperate need for a Savior, but what about the Lord part?

See, Jesus isn't just Savior. He's also Lord of all.

And...If Jesus isn't Lord in your life, then, Jesus also is NOT your Savior. Whatever is Lord in your life is most important, and that is what you're serving. And ... it may not be Jesus!

When Jesus invites you to follow Him, this is His invitation:

Luke 9:23-25, "If anyone would come after me, he must deny himself and take up his cross daily and follow me. For whoever wants to save his life will lose it, but whoever loses his life for me will save it. What good is it for a man to gain the whole world, and yet lose or forfeit his very self?"

Lordship is the context of this verse.

We **deny** our lordship, and we **take up** His Lordship.

The **must** in this verse informs us that there's no salvation apart from it.

In your life, Jesus must be Lord of all, or He is Lord of nothing.

Referenced: Galatians 2:20; 2 Corinthians 4:5; John 14:21; Matthew 7:21-22

Conclusion & Application:

The essence of making Jesus Lord of your life is to deny yourself, follow Him, and do what He says. Anything short of that is wishful thinking, not lordship.

Next Steps:

- Memorize Luke 9:23-25.
- Deny yourself every day.
- Take up your cross every day.
- Follow Jesus every day.
- Make Jesus Lord of your life every day.

Discussion questions for group this week:

1. What does this teach me about God?

2. What does this teach me about me?

3. How do I apply this to my life?

4. If I could ask a question about this it would be....