

Royal Redeemer

CGS Community Discussion Guide

Based on the sermon for September 2 + 3, 2017
Making the Most of Your Life: Use Your Compass & Rudder



(For use as an opening Devotion, use only the highlighted portion)

- **Begin by sharing a high and/or how from your week**

Connect

- Recall a time when you were sailing. Where were you? How old were you? Who were you with?

Grow (read this passage aloud and listen for words or phrases that speak into your life now)

21 From that time on Jesus began to explain to his disciples that he must go to Jerusalem and suffer many things at the hands of the elders, the chief priests and the teachers of the law, and that he must be killed and on the third day be raised to life.

22 Peter took him aside and began to rebuke him. "Never, Lord!" he said. "This shall never happen to you!"

23 Jesus turned and said to Peter, "Get behind me, Satan! You are a stumbling block to me; you do not have in mind the concerns of God, but merely human concerns."

24 Then Jesus said to his disciples, "Whoever wants to be my disciple must deny themselves and take up their cross and follow me. 25 For whoever wants to save their life will lose it, but whoever loses their life for me will find it. 26 What good will it be for someone to gain the whole world, yet forfeit their soul? Or what can anyone give in exchange for their soul?"

Matthew 16:21-26

- Share any words or phrases that speak into your life today.
- Discuss a few of the forces or "winds" that can take our focus off God as our compass and cause us to drift?
- In the story from Luke 9, Jesus says that we must "deny" ourselves and "take up" our cross and follow him. How does understanding this as an invitation to baptism change your perception of the interaction?
- If you were Peter, would you have reacted to Jesus differently?

Serve

- If you are facing a growing gap between how you are spending your time and what you believe to be important, consider spending a few moments each morning with God in prayer and devotion. Then do one thing each day that draws you closer to God through Christ. At the end of the day evaluate how your energy, passion, happiness, etc. Repeat for six days and rest on the seventh.

End with the Lord's Prayer