

AUGUST 30: TAKE UP YOUR CROSS 22ND SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

INCLUDED:

Wooden cross

Cross stickers



USE YOUR OWN:

Markers or crayons

MATTHEW 16:21-27

Jesus began to show his disciples that he must go to Jerusalem and suffer greatly from the elders, the chief priests, and the scribes, and be killed and on the third day be raised. Then Peter took Jesus aside and began to rebuke him, “God forbid, Lord! No such thing shall ever happen to you.” He turned and said to Peter, “Get behind me, Satan! You are an obstacle to me. You are thinking not as God does, but as human beings do.”

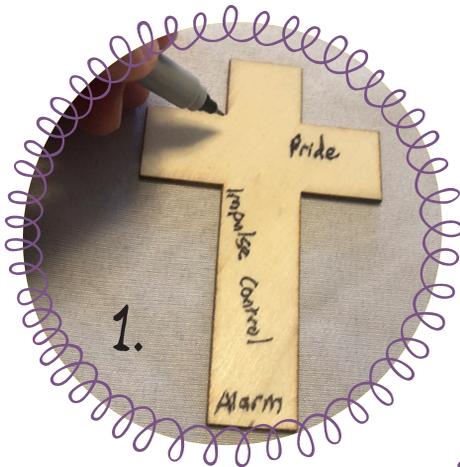
Then Jesus said to his disciples, “Whoever wishes to come after me must deny himself, take up his cross, and follow me. For whoever wishes to save his life will lose it, but whoever loses his life for my sake will find it. What profit would there be for one to gain the whole world and forfeit his life? Or what can one give in exchange for his life? For the Son of Man will come with his angels in his Father’s glory, and then he will repay all according to his conduct.”

- Q.**
1. What did it mean to “take up your cross” in Jesus’ day?
 2. What do we often think of with “taking up your cross?”

- A.**
1. It meant to be ready to be crucified along with Christ.
 2. We know that through Jesus’ cross we have redemption. We often talk about our “crosses” as struggles we have personally. Jesus wants to help us through all our struggles.

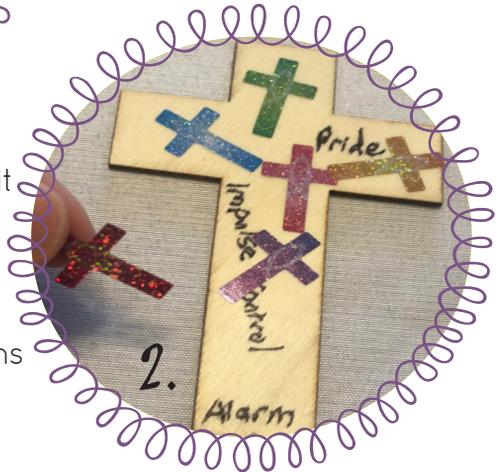
More resources at

THE MASS BOX

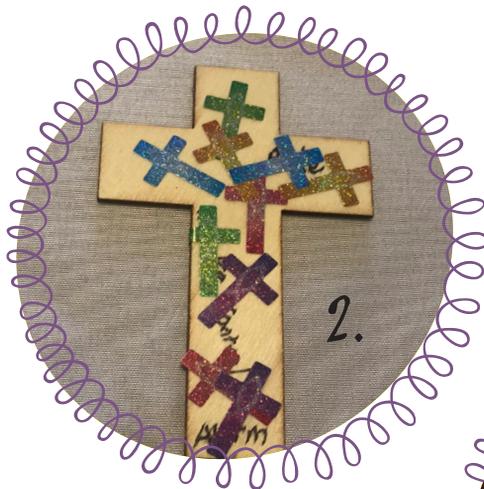


1. Are there any ways that you choose to give in to temptations instead of staying focused on Jesus? Think about them. If you like, you can write those down on your cross. When Jesus says, "take up your cross and follow me," what does He mean?

2. He is talking about how hard it might be for His followers. They must be willing to completely "die to self" and be ready to die for Jesus. Today we also remember how little temptations can build walls from following Christ.



2. Cover over the writing with cross stickers. We must be ready to follow Jesus completely, even when it's hard! Many of Jesus' followers left when they realized how hard it could be to follow Jesus.



3. You can also cover the cross with only stickers if you prefer, or decorate it in other ways. We want to always remember that even if following Jesus is hard in the moment, it's always worth it for an eternal life with Jesus! He loves you so much.

