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**Luke 9:18-27 and 46-62** New International Version

<sup>18</sup> Once when Jesus was praying in private and his disciples were with him, he asked them, “Who do the crowds say I am?”

<sup>19</sup> They replied, “Some say John the Baptist; others say Elijah; and still others, that one of the prophets of long ago has come back to life.”

<sup>20</sup> “But what about you?” he asked. “Who do you say I am?”

Peter answered, “God’s Messiah.”

<sup>21</sup> Jesus strictly warned them not to tell this to anyone. <sup>22</sup> And he said, “The Son of Man must suffer many things and be rejected by the elders, the chief priests and the teachers of the law, and he must be killed and on the third day be raised to life.”

<sup>23</sup> Then he said to them all: “Whoever wants to be my disciple must deny themselves and take up their cross daily and follow me. <sup>24</sup> For whoever wants to save their life will lose it, but whoever loses their life for me will save it. <sup>25</sup> What good is it for someone to gain the whole world, and yet lose or forfeit their very self? <sup>26</sup> Whoever is ashamed of me and my words, the Son of Man will be ashamed of them when he comes in his glory and in the glory of the Father and of the holy angels.

<sup>27</sup> “Truly I tell you, some who are standing here will not taste death before they see the kingdom of God.”

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<sup>46</sup> An argument started among the disciples as to which of them would be the greatest. <sup>47</sup> Jesus, knowing their thoughts, took a little child and had him stand beside him. <sup>48</sup> Then he said to them, “Whoever welcomes this little child in my name welcomes me; and whoever welcomes me welcomes the one who sent me. For it is the one who is least among you all who is the greatest.”

<sup>49</sup> “Master,” said John, “we saw someone driving out demons in your name and we tried to stop him, because he is not one of us.”

<sup>50</sup> “Do not stop him,” Jesus said, “for whoever is not against you is for you.”

<sup>51</sup> As the time approached for him to be taken up to heaven, Jesus resolutely set out for Jerusalem. <sup>52</sup> And he sent messengers on ahead, who went into a Samaritan village to get things ready for him; <sup>53</sup> but the people there did not welcome him, because he was heading for

Jerusalem. <sup>54</sup> When the disciples James and John saw this, they asked, “Lord, do you want us to call fire down from heaven to destroy them?”<sup>55</sup> But Jesus turned and rebuked them. <sup>56</sup> Then he and his disciples went to another village.

<sup>57</sup> As they were walking along the road, a man said to him, “I will follow you wherever you go.”

<sup>58</sup> Jesus replied, “Foxes have dens and birds have nests, but the Son of Man has no place to lay his head.”

<sup>59</sup> He said to another man, “Follow me.”

But he replied, “Lord, first let me go and bury my father.”

<sup>60</sup> Jesus said to him, “Let the dead bury their own dead, but you go and proclaim the kingdom of God.”

<sup>61</sup> Still another said, “I will follow you, Lord; but first let me go back and say goodbye to my family.”

<sup>62</sup> Jesus replied, “No one who puts a hand to the plow and looks back is fit for service in the kingdom of God.”