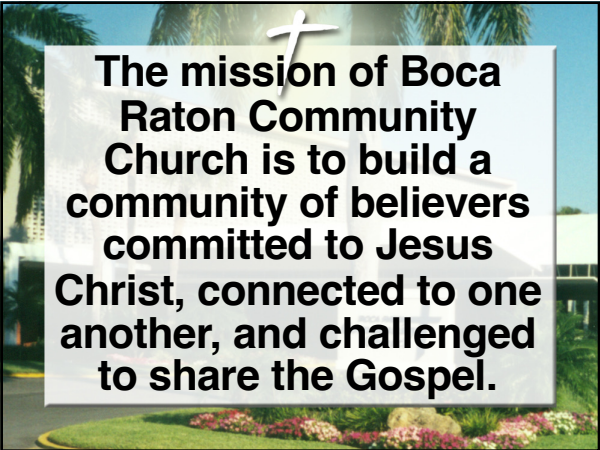


Taking Up Your Cross

74



The mission of Boca
Raton Community
Church is to build a
community of believers
committed to Jesus
Christ, connected to one
another, and challenged
to share the Gospel.

75

Discipleship
Begins With a
Clear Confession

Mark 8:27-29

76

**“You are
the Christ”**

77

Discipleship
Involves a
Complete
Submission
“deny himself”

78

**“You are not your
own, you are bought
with a price, therefore
glorify God in your
body and your spirit,
which are God’s.”**

I Corinthians 6:20

79

It is my pride that makes me independent of God. It's appealing to me to feel that I am the master of my fate, that I run my own life, call my own shots, go it alone.

80

But, that feeling is my basic dishonesty. I can't go it alone. I have to get help from other people, and I can't ultimately rely on myself.

81

I'm dependent on God for my very next breath. It is dishonest of me to pretend that I'm anything but a man--small, weak, and limited.

82

So, living independent of God is self-delusion. It is not just a matter of pride being an unfortunate little trait, and humility being an attractive little virtue;

83

It's my inner psychological integrity that's at stake. When I am conceited, I am lying to myself about what I am. I am pretending to be God, and not man.

84

My pride is the idolatrous worship of myself. And that is the national religion of Hell!

**"The Art of Being a Big Shot"
By Howard Butt**

85

**Discipleship
Requires a Cross
Possession**

86

**“A cross less
Christianity
is not
Christianity
at all.”**

87

**Forgiveness
Replaces
Bitterness**

88

**Service
Replaces
Indulgence**

89

**Word
Replaces
Will**

90

**Love
Replaces
Law**

91

**Fruitfulness
Replaces
Fruitlessness**

92

**Discipleship
Demands a Public
Association**

Mark 8:38

93

**“I believe I am not
mistaken in saying
that Christianity is
a demanding and
serious religion.”**

94

**“When it is delivered
as easy and amusing,
it is another kind of
religion all together.”**

--Neil Postman

95

**I simply argue that
the cross be raised
again at the center of
the market place as
well as on the steeple
of the church,**

96

**I am recovering the
claim that Jesus was
not crucified in a
cathedral between
two candles:
but on a cross
between two thieves;**

97

**on a town garbage
heap; at a crossroad
of politics so
cosmopolitan that
they had to write His
title in Hebrew and in
Latin and in Greek ...**

98

**And at the kind of
place where cynics
talk smut,
and thieves curse
and soldiers gamble.**

99

**Because that is
where He died,
and that is what He
died about.**

100

**And that is where
Christ's men
ought to be, and
what church people
ought to be about.**

**"Return the Cross to Golgotha"
by George MacLeod**

101