

PUBLICLY ACKNOWLEDGE

HIGH CALLING DISCIPLESHIP 17

Jesus' Teaching: Publicly Acknowledge

Matthew 10:32-33 [Jesus said,] Whoever acknowledges me before others, I will also acknowledge before my Father in heaven. ³³ But whoever disowns me before others, I will disown before my Father in heaven. NIV

Luke 12:8-9 [Jesus said,] "I tell you, whoever publicly acknowledges me before others, the Son of Man will also acknowledge before the angels of God. ⁹ But whoever disowns me before others will be disowned before the angels of God. NIV

Clarifications:

Public acknowledgement does not save us.

Acts 16:30-31 [The jailer] then brought [Paul and Silas] out and asked, "Sirs, what must I do to be saved?"

³¹ They replied, "Believe in the Lord Jesus, and you will be saved—you and your household." NIV

A singular denial does not mean you are doomed.

John 18:25b So they asked him, "You aren't one of his disciples too, are you?"

He denied it, saying, "I am not." NIV

2 Timothy 2:12b-13 If we disown him, he will also disown us; ¹³ if we are faithless, he remains faithful, for he cannot disown himself. NIV

Three ways to acknowledge Jesus publicly:

Get baptized.

Matthew 28:19-20 [Jesus said,] "Therefore go and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, ²⁰ and teaching them to obey everything I have commanded you. And surely I am with you always, to the very end of the age." NIV

Purpose:

Romans 10:9-10 If you declare with your mouth, "Jesus is Lord," and believe in your heart that God raised him from the dead, you will be saved. ¹⁰ For it is with your heart that you believe and are justified, and it is with your mouth that you profess your faith and are saved. NIV

Shine your light with your deeds.

Matthew 5:14-16 [Jesus said,] "You are the light of the world. A town built on a hill cannot be hidden. ¹⁵ Neither do people light a lamp and put it under a bowl. Instead they put it on its stand, and it gives light to everyone in the house. ¹⁶ In the same way, let your light shine before others, that they may see your good deeds and glorify your Father in heaven. NIV

Share the message of hope.

Romans 1:16 For I [, Paul,] am not ashamed of the gospel, because it is the power of God that brings salvation to everyone who believes: first to the Jew, then to the Gentile. NIV

Don't worry about what you are going to say.

Luke 12:11-12 [Jesus said,] "When you are brought before synagogues, rulers and authorities, do not worry about how you will defend yourselves or what you will say, ¹² for the Holy Spirit will teach you at that time what you should say." NIV

Matthew 10:19-20 [Jesus said,] "But when they arrest you, do not worry about what to say or how to say it. At that time you will be given what to say, ²⁰ for it will not be you speaking, but the Spirit of your Father speaking through you." NIV

Don't worry about persecution.

Luke 12:4-7 [Jesus said,] "I tell you, my friends, do not be afraid of those who kill the body and after that can do no more. ⁵ But I will show you whom you should fear: Fear him who, after your body has been killed, has authority to throw you into hell. Yes, I tell you, fear him. ⁶ Are not five sparrows sold for two pennies? Yet not one of them is forgotten by God. ⁷ Indeed, the very hairs of your head are all numbered. Don't be afraid; you are worth more than many sparrows. NIV

Matthew 10:28-31 [Jesus said,] "Do not be afraid of those who kill the body but cannot kill the soul. Rather, be afraid of the One who can destroy both soul and body in hell. ²⁹ Are not two sparrows sold for a penny? Yet not one of them will fall to the ground outside your Father's care. ³⁰ And even the very hairs of your head are all numbered. ³¹ So don't be afraid; you are worth more than many sparrows." NIV

Don't be so discreet that the message is lost.

Luke 12:3 [Jesus said,] "What you have said in the dark will be heard in the daylight, and what you have whispered in the ear in the inner rooms will be proclaimed from the roofs." NIV

Matthew 10:27 [Jesus said,] "What I tell you in the dark, speak in the daylight; what is whispered in your ear, proclaim from the roofs." NIV