

Grant us, O Lord, to trust in you with all our hearts; for, as you always resist the proud who confide in their own strength, so you never forsake those who make their boast of your mercy; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. Amen..

Look

On Sunday, Lisa shared the story of Constance and her companions, a group of Episcopal nuns who chose to stay and care for the people of Memphis who were sick with yellow fever. Most of them, 38 in all, were killed by the fever.

1. Have you ever seen someone head into danger to save someone else? What did you think of their choice?
2. What did they gain from doing so? What did they lose?
3. Have you ever risked something important to you to help someone else? What was that experience like.

Book

[John 12:24-28](#)

Jesus explains that sometimes we have to lose things in order to gain things. A grain of wheat only bears fruit if it dies first. Following Jesus might mean losing life as we know it, but then gaining eternal life.

1. Why is Jesus willing to go forward towards his own execution? Why doesn't he ask the Father to save him?
2. What does it mean to follow Jesus? Where are we following him?
3. What does it mean, in this context, to gain eternal life?

Took

Sometimes doing the work of Jesus will put us in situations where we are uncomfortable, uneasy, and unsure. We might even be a little scared. But Jesus reminds us that following him might mean losing our life, only to gain it.

1. Where might Jesus be calling you out of your comfort zone to do his work in the world?
2. What might be holding you back from answering that call? What might you lose if you do the work God is calling you to do?
3. What might you gain by taking the risk and doing the work?