HARD TO BELIEVE

❖ *Key Text*: ***Matthew 16:21-28*** (NASB1995)

❖ WHAT IS GOD AFTER?

- **God has chosen to display His glory in _____.**
- **Through _____, mankind brought under condemnation and death**
- **Through human effort, man was saddled with a suffocating _____ and an unbearable _____.**
- **Through Christ, _____ from sin was won, and _____ _____ of life was realized once again.**
- **God is after displaying His _____ to the delight of those He created, who will love and glorify Him in _____.**

❖ DISCIPLESHIP IS COSTLY

- **The Disciple of Christ will deny of _____ to the glory of God**
- **Through the putting down of one's _____ before the altar of the Lord, a disciple is lead from death to life, from glory to glory.**
- **Christ offers a yoke that is _____, and a burden that is _____.**
- **The disciple understands that loss is _____, and that death to self brings _____ eternal.**

❖ CONCLUSION

- **Our natural inclination is to see ourselves _____, but Jesus calls us to see Him _____.**
- **The Gospel is hard to believe, but not impossible; in fact, it is the _____ explanation for the human condition.**

Answer Key:

- **God has chosen to display His glory in CREATION**
- **Through PRIDE, mankind brought under condemnation and death**
- **Through human effort, man was saddled with a suffocating YOKE and an unbearable BURDEN**
- **Through Christ, FREEDOM from sin was won, and TRUE PURPOSE of life was realized once again.**
- **God is after displaying His GLORY to the delight of those He created, who will love and glorify Him in RETURN.**

❖ **DISCIPLESHIP IS COSTLY**

- **The Disciple of Christ will deny of SELF to the glory of God**
- **Through the putting down of one's DESIRES before the altar of the Lord, a disciple is lead from death to life, from glory to glory.**
- **Christ offers a yoke that is EASY, and a burden that is LIGHT.**
- **The disciple understands that loss is GAIN, and that death to self brings LIFE eternal.**

❖ **CONCLUSION**

- **Our natural inclination is to see ourselves SATISFIED, but Jesus calls us to see Him GLORIFIED.**
- **The Gospel is hard to believe, but not impossible; in fact, it is the ONLY explanation for the human condition.**