

## **Sovereign Grace Church**

### *“The Easy Yoke” outline*

October 2, 2016

**Matthew 6: 33; 10: 34-39; 11: 28-30**

*Recently I've been doing quite a bit of thinking about what it really means to be a Christian....not just what a Christian is supposed to DO....but what he is supposed to BE. I believe that the answer to that question strikes at the heart of what it means to be truly alive. The odd thing about Scriptural teaching is that it seems to indicate quite clearly that in order to be truly alive....we must first die! Jesus says that if we want to truly live we must deny ourselves, pick up our crosses and follow Him. But then he also says things like “bearing His yoke is easy and His burden light”! How can a yoke which requires my death and sacrifice be EASY?! It is to that question that we turn this morning in our brief interlude from Hebrews.*

**Preliminary Scriptures: Ac. 9:2; Jn 14:6; Matt 28:19**

#### **1. The Requirements of Christ's Yoke seems Impossible!**

- **Demands of Christ's Yoke**  
Lk 14:26; Matt 7: 13-14; Gal. 5: 22-23
- **How then is this Easy?**  
Matt 11: 30; II Cor. 3: 18

#### **2. What makes Christ's Yoke Easy is My Death! Jn 12:24; Rom. 6: 4,5,11; Gal. 2: 20**

**Crucial Verse: Matt. 6: 33**

- **What “things”?** (context)
- **Seeking God's Kingdom**
- **Seeking God's Righteousness**

- 3. Christ's Yoke requires a replacement of My Self-Kingdom with the Kingdom of Jesus  
Isa 11: 6-9**

**Counting the Cost: Lk 14: 28**

## **Two Applications**

### **Questions for Family Discussion**

- 1. Do you understand what it means to live a Christian life? How would you explain it to someone who asks you? How is such a life impossible? How is such a life easy?**
- 2. How does our regeneration (being born again) fit in with Jesus' call to be His disciple? How is making converts different than making disciples?**
- 3. How is it that some Christian's seem to regard Jesus' call to discipleship as optional? How is it really central?**
- 4. What are certain deficiencies in many Christian techniques used in guarding against sin? Why is proper behavior not enough? Is it really possible for the human heart to be transformed? What part does our regeneration play in this transformation? What part do we play?**
- 5. In what areas do you struggle in your desire to follow Christ (anger, lust, covetousness, pride, lethargy, etc). Do you have a fellow believer(s) you can entrust with these struggles in your seeking of transformation into Christ-likeness? What are things you used to love to do that you now hate? How did this transition occur? Any lessons in this for your current struggles?**
- 6. Why is the lack of a promise of perfection in this life not an excuse for pursuing our sanctification in the Spirit with real vigor? When does eternal life begin? Where is heaven?**