



PASTOR

MELISSA

QUAH

**DID GOD  
REALLY SAY . . .**



Source: [samchui.com](http://samchui.com)



photo courtesy of Robert Pearson



Source: [samchui.com](http://samchui.com)

# The Gimli Glider

A half-truth can be a whole lot of trouble.

## John 8:32 (NIV)

<sup>32</sup> Then you will know the truth, and the truth will set you free.

**DID  GOD REALLY SAY**

**HE JUST WANTS YOU TO BE HAPPY ?**



**PASTOR**



**MELISSA**



**QUAH**

“Follow your heart”

“Follow your heart”

“You do you”

“Follow your heart”

“You do you”

“If it makes you happy, it can't be wrong”

## Matthew 16: 24–26 (NIV)

<sup>24</sup> Then Jesus said to his disciples, “Whoever wants to be my disciple must deny themselves and take up their cross and follow me. <sup>25</sup> For whoever wants to save their life will lose it, but whoever loses their life for me will find it.

## Matthew 16: 24–26 (NIV)

<sup>26</sup> What good will it be for someone to gain the whole world, yet forfeit their soul? Or what can anyone give in exchange for their soul?

## Matthew 16:22 (NLT)

<sup>22</sup> But Peter took him aside and began to reprimand him for saying such things. “Heaven forbid, Lord,” he said. “This will never happen to you!”

## Matthew 16:23 (NLT)

<sup>23</sup> Jesus turned to Peter and said, “Get away from me, Satan! You are a dangerous trap to me. You are seeing things merely from a **human point of view**, not from God’s.”

## Hebrews 12:2 (NIV)

<sup>2</sup> ...For the joy set before him he endured the cross, scorning its shame, and sat down at the right hand of the throne of God.

Happiness is never meant to be  
God's ultimate goal for us.

What happens when we chase happiness  
as the ultimate goal in life?

# PURSUE SELF-FULFILLMENT INSTEAD OF SELF-DENIAL

## Matthew 16:24 (NIV)

<sup>24</sup> Then Jesus said to his disciples, “Whoever wants to be my disciple must **deny themselves** and take up their cross and follow me.

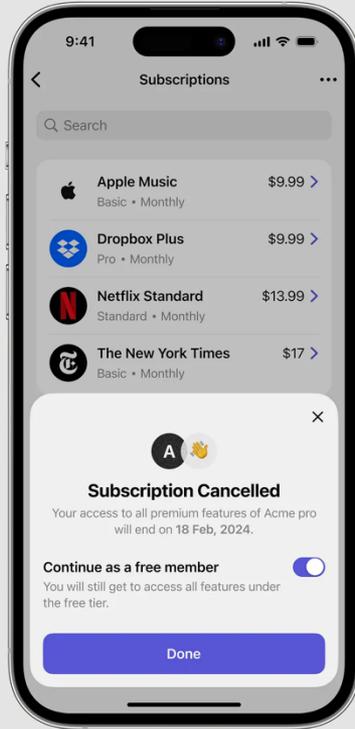
## Matthew 16:24 (NLT)

<sup>24</sup> ... you must **give up your own way**, take up your cross, and follow me.

To be His disciples, we are to **say no to our ways, but yes to the ways of God.**

To put God and not ourselves first.

Many Christians are satisfied with Jesus  
as their Saviour, but not surrendered  
to Him as their Lord.



Source: dribbble.com

DID GOD  
REALLY  
WANT YOU TO BE HAPPY?

SAY

Self-denial is about **surrendering**  
our will to God's will

Do you get angry with God when you pray  
and things don't go your way?

Do you pray to and inquire of God  
when you make decisions, in order  
to be aligned with His plans?

## Jeremiah 29:11 (NIV)

<sup>11</sup> “**For I know** the plans I have for you,” declares the Lord, “plans to prosper you and not to harm you, plans to give you hope and a future.”

For I know

His ultimate goal is to make us **holy**,  
to conform us to the image of His Son,  
Jesus Christ, and to bring us into  
a loving relationship with Him.

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as the ultimate goal in life? We will:

# PURSUE SELF-FULFILLMENT INSTEAD OF SELF-DENIAL

What happens when we chase happiness  
as the ultimate goal in life? We will:

**PURSUE SELF-FULFILLMENT  
INSTEAD OF SELF-DENIAL**

**TRADE ETERNAL REWARDS  
FOR TEMPORAL PLEASURES**

## Into the darkness of the Internet and back again



14-year-old student Mohamed Zinedine Emad found himself neglecting his studies as his screen time increased.

ST PHOTO: NG SOR LUAN

Source: [straitstimes.com](http://straitstimes.com)

## 'Anorexia was my best friend': Why youth turn to eating disorders to cope



Ms Lee Yue-Er, 21, started her eating disorder when she was in Primary 5, due to challenging family circumstances.

ST PHOTO: SHINTARO TAY

Source: [straitstimes.com](https://www.straitstimes.com)

“Hunger was a **source of comfort**. When my weight dropped, I felt **satisfaction**.”

LEE YUE ER

When we chase after temporal pleasures and  
make them the **source** of our happiness.

The 'happiness' the world  
offers is **short-lived.**

## 1 John 2:17 (NIV)

<sup>17</sup> The world and its desires pass away, but whoever does the will of God lives forever.

## 1 John 2:15 (NIV)

<sup>15</sup> Do not love the world or anything in the world. If anyone loves the world, **love for the Father is not in them.**

## Matthew 16:26 (NIV)

<sup>26</sup> What good will it be for someone to gain the whole world, yet **forfeit their soul**? Or what can anyone give in exchange for their soul?

## Genesis 25:29–34 (NIV)

<sup>29</sup> Once when Jacob was cooking some stew, Esau came in from the open country, famished. <sup>30</sup> He said to Jacob, “Quick, let me have some of that red stew! I’m famished!” <sup>31</sup> Jacob replied, “First sell me your birthright.” <sup>32</sup> “Look, I am about to die,” Esau said. “What good is the birthright to me?”

## Genesis 25:29–34 (NIV)

<sup>33</sup> But Jacob said, “Swear to me first.” So he swore an oath to him, selling his birthright to Jacob. <sup>34</sup> Then Jacob gave Esau some bread and some lentil stew. He ate and drank, and then got up and left. **So Esau despised his birthright.**



Source: [wellingtonchurch.co](http://wellingtonchurch.co)

DID GOD  
REALLY  
EAT JUST WHAT YOU'D BE HAPPY?

**SAY**

Some of you think that you can  
have the **best of both worlds.**



Source: [therealdeal.com](http://therealdeal.com)

DID GOD  
REALLY  
EAT JUST WHAT YOU'D BE HAPPY ?  
**SAY**

## Matthew 6:24 (NIV)

**24 No one can serve two masters.** Either you will hate the one and love the other, or you will be devoted to the one and despise the other.

Once we start pursuing the  
temporary pleasures of this world,  
there is always a **price to pay.**

## Psalm 16:11 (ESV)

<sup>11</sup> You make known to me the path of life; **in your presence** there is **fullness of joy**; at your right hand are **pleasures forevermore**.

Unlike what the world offers,  
what **Jesus offers us** is **unchanging,**  
**reliable** and **eternal.**

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as the ultimate goal in life? We will:

# PURSUE SELF-FULFILLMENT INSTEAD OF SELF-DENIAL

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**TRADE ETERNAL REWARDS  
FOR TEMPORAL PLEASURES**



DID • GOD  
REALLY **SAY**  
HE JUST WANTS YOU TO BE HAPPY ?

Total surrender

The greatest hindrance to following Jesus is not in what we lack but in what we have.

## Matthew 16:25(NIV)

<sup>25</sup> For whoever wants to save their life will lose it, but whoever **loses their life for me** will find it.

**DID  GOD REALLY SAY**

**HE JUST WANTS YOU TO BE HAPPY ?**

**● PASTOR**



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