

The Christian Life

An Introduction to Calvin's *Institutes*

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Summary of Last Week

- The end goal of God's work of sanctification in our life is to make us holy as he is holy
- Holiness is achieved through conformity to God's law (loving God and loving others)
- Scripture teaches us that self-denial is the only way to truly love others and love God
- God gives each of his children crosses to bear, that through suffering they might learn self-denial and become more like Christ
- Because God is at work through them, we can make sense of our suffering
- Suffering helps us become more like Christ because it makes us want to be with him, and thus leads us to *meditate on our future life*

Class 5 | Meditation on Our Future Life

***Christian Life* ch. 3 | *Institutes* bk. 3, ch. 9**

- Bearing Our Cross Demonstrates the Vanity of Our Present Life (§ 1-2)
- Bearing Our Cross Demonstrates the Value of Our Life to Come (§ 3-6)

**Bearing Our Cross
Demonstrates the Vanity of Our
Present Life (§ 1-2)**

Bearing Our Cross Demonstrates the Vanity of Our Present Life (§ 1-2)

1. The vanity of this life
2. Our tendency to not notice the vanity of this life

“There’s no middle ground between these two things: either earth must become worthless to us, or we must remain bound by the chains of extravagant love for it.”

**Bearing Our Cross
Demonstrates the Value of Our
Life to Come (§ 3-6)**

Bearing Our Cross Demonstrates the Value of Our Life to Come (§ 3-6)

3. Proper gratitude for earthly life
4. Proper longing for eternal life
5. Therefore, believers ought not fear death
6. Comfort for believers from proper longing for eternal life