

The Cost of Discipleship

Luke 14: 25-35

“If anyone would come after me, let him deny himself and take up his cross daily and follow me.” – Luke 9:23

- What does it mean to be a disciple of Jesus?

1. We must establish our Priorities.

- Verses 26-27, 33
- The word “*hate*” is used as an expression of “loving less.” (cf. v. 26)
- The cost of discipleship requires our priorities, our obedience and our allegiance to Him

2. We must count the Cost.

- Verses 28-32
- Two mini parables : building a tower and a king going to war against another king
Lessons:
 - Jesus is warning us against making any hasty decisions to follow him.
 - Jesus calls us to first make an assessment to see if we would ever persevere in the faith and finish the race of life, and not be tempted later to turn back.

3. We must be willing to pay the Price.

- Verse 33
What does it mean to “*to renounce all that he has*” (“*give up of everything*” in NIV)?
 - It means a complete surrender to God.
 - It means recognizing that God has claim on all areas of our lives.
 - It also means we need to learn what God desires in these areas of our lives - and - to understand that God has access to our lives and all that we have.

4. We must be Faithful to Him.

- Verses 34-35 (cf. Matthew 5:13) – illustration of “*salt*”.
 - Preserving God’s truth.
 - Growing in the faith.

Reflection:

1. What are some of the cost of discipleship?
2. Should we abandon everything to follow Jesus? Why?
3. How do we balance our responsibilities to our families with our discipleship in Jesus Christ? Is this possible?