

The Cost of Being a Disciple

Luke 14:25-35

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I. INTRODUCTION

- A. Counting the cost of following Jesus is essential to being a faithful disciple.
- B. Counting the cost involves knowing what to expect and what is required so we finish strong.
- C. Large crowds followed Jesus, many of whom turned away when the cost of following seemed too much.

TRUE DISCIPLES KNOW THE COST OF FOLLOWING JESUS AND REMAIN STRONG TO THE END.

II. WHAT IS THAT COST?

A. Total devotion to Jesus.

(Luke 14:25-26)

- 1. Our devotion to Jesus must be greater than our devotion to anyone or anything else.
- 2. Jesus said it would seem like we hate others by comparison. Hate here is a strong Jewish expression of preference of one over another.
- 3. Our devotion to Jesus is to be stronger than our devotion to any other relationships or pursuits.

B. Complete surrender of everything.

(Luke 14:27-35)

- 1. The call to follow Jesus is not a call to a picnic, but a call to die.
 - a. We take up our cross. People in the 1st century who took up a cross were on their way to die.
 - b. to take up our cross is to die to self and the world and to live for Jesus.

2. First, we surrender self.

(Luke 14:26)

a. We are to deny ourselves.

(Luke 9:23)

- 1) Deny — to forsake or deny utterly. To affirm that a person has no connection with what they deny.
- 2) A disciple is to utterly deny self — they are completely surrendered to Jesus.

b. Galatians 2:20

3. Then, we surrender everything else.

(Luke 14:33)

- a. “Give up everything” — renounce ownership.
- b. Jesus wasn’t saying get rid of everything and have no possessions. He was saying give up the right of ownership of everything because everything belongs to Him.
- c. When we know everything belongs to Jesus, we hold nothing back when He calls us to give those things in service to Him.
- d. We are stewards, managers of God’s possessions. We own nothing.

III. CONCLUSION