

The Cost of Following Jesus (Luke 14:25-35)

Change Your World – Part 7
Life Church St. Louis – May 18, 2014
Lead Pastor – Dr. Dan Walker

Luke 6:22 (NIV) Blessed are you when men hate you, when they exclude you and insult you and reject your name as evil, because of the Son of Man.

Luke 9:62 (NIV) Jesus replied, "No one who puts his hand to the plow and looks back is fit for service in the kingdom of God."

Luke 12:5 (NIV) But I will show you whom you should fear: Fear him who, after the killing of the body, has power to throw you into hell. Yes, I tell you, fear him.

Luke 13:24 (NIV) "Make every effort to enter through the narrow door, because many, I tell you, will try to enter and will not be able to.

1. What it takes to be a _____ of Jesus

Luke 14:25 (NIV) Large crowds were traveling with Jesus, and turning to them he said:

1A. Love Jesus more than _____

Luke 14:26 (NIV) "If anyone comes to me and does not hate his father and mother, his wife and children, his brothers and sisters--yes, even his own life--he cannot be my disciple.

1B. _____ to yourself and follow Jesus

Luke 14:27 (NIV) And anyone who does not carry his cross and follow me cannot be my disciple.

2. Count the _____ of being a disciple of Jesus

2A. Are you willing to give Jesus all your _____?

Luke 14:28-30 (NIV) "Suppose one of you wants to build a tower. Will he not first sit down and estimate the cost to see if he has enough money to complete it? For if he lays the foundation and is not able to finish it, everyone who sees it will ridicule him, saying, 'This fellow began to build and was not able to finish.'

2B. Are you willing to give Jesus all your _____?

Luke 14:31-32 (NIV) "Or suppose a king is about to go to war against another king. Will he not first sit down and consider whether he is able with ten thousand men to oppose the one coming against him with twenty thousand? If he is not able, he will send a delegation while the other is still a long way off and will ask for terms of peace.

2C. Give Jesus _____ you have

Luke 14:33 (NIV) In the same way, any of you who does not give up everything he has cannot be my disciple.

3. Make sure your _____ matches your words

Luke 14:34-35 (NIV) "Salt is good, but if it loses its saltiness, how can it be made salty again? It is fit neither for the soil nor for the manure pile; it is thrown out. "He who has ears to hear, let him hear."

Luke 6:46 (NIV) "Why do you call me, 'Lord, Lord,' and do not do what I say?"

The Cost of Following Jesus (Luke 14:25-35)

Study Guide

Change Your World – Part 7
Life Church St. Louis – May 18, 2014
Lead Pastor – Dr. Dan Walker

Intro. What do you think is the best way to change our world as believers?

Why do some people make being a Christian seem very easy? What is wrong with that approach?

Why did Jesus often say difficult things to the crowds that were following Him?

What kinds of people would have stopped listening to Jesus when they heard Him say the things in these verses (Luke 6:22, 9:62, 12:5, 13:24)?

1A. What did Jesus mean in Luke 14:26 when He said you must hate your own family and your own life in order to be His disciple?

1B. What does it mean to carry your cross and follow Jesus (Luke 14:27)?

1C. What kinds of things must people leave behind when they choose to be a disciple of Jesus (Luke 14:17-20)?

1D. Is there anything in your life that you know you must leave behind to follow Jesus more closely?

2A. How does Jesus' story of the tower builder relate to a person considering being a disciple of Jesus (Luke 14:28-30)?

2B. How does Jesus' story of the king going to war relate to a person considering being a disciple of Jesus (Luke 14:31-32)?

2C. What does it mean to give up everything you have for Jesus (Luke 14:33)?

2D. Why do you think some people find it difficult to give their tithes and offerings to God through the church (Malachi 3:8-10)?

3A. How is salt that has lost its saltiness like someone who claims to follow Jesus but doesn't (Luke 14:34-35)?

3B. Why is it important that our commitment matches our words (Luke 6:46-49)?

3C. How could you explain the cost of following Jesus to someone you were talking to about spiritual matters?