The Great Cost of Discipleship

Greg Kline · Luke 14:25–35

INTRODUCTION

- I do want to consider am I the disciple that Jesus commands I be?
- Am I following him the way he doesn't just suggest, but the way he demands, the way he commands.
- We're going to talk this morning about the great cost of discipleship.

1 Jesus Demands Our Total Commitment

Luke 14:26; Luke 14:33

- If anyone comes to me, it is inescapable that this message is for all.
- Jesus demands our total commitment, and anything short of total commitment from this passage is not up to God's standard.
- It's not a command to hate, it's a command to put Christ first.
- The great cost to the Jew would be, in very many ways, their family, their way of life, their social background, their economic background.

2 Sit Down First and Count the Cost

Luke 14:28–30; 2 John 1:8–9; 2 Peter 2:20–22

- For which of you desiring to build a tower does not first sit down and count the cost whether he has enough to complete it.
- He's commanding that we stand back and think. What do we think about? That following after Jesus has a great cost.
- Counting the cost involves both sides of that coin, though, and that includes understanding what do we have to give up.
- Watch yourselves. So that you may not lose what we have worked for, but may win a full reward.
- It would have been better for them never to have known the way of righteousness than after knowing it to turn back from the holy commandment delivered to them.

3 Evaluate Properly and Make the Right Decision

Luke 14:31–32

- What king going out to encounter another king in war will not sit down first and deliberate whether he is able with 10,000 to meet him who comes against him with 20,000.
- Not just evaluate properly, make the right decision.
- You can't abstain from choosing to follow Christ. You either have chosen to submit to him or you have chosen not to.
- We have to count the cost of following him and anticipate that we will not be able to do it without him.

- If we know that God has loved the world so much that he gave his son to die for our sins, and we reject him, aren't we just as foolish as a king with 10,000 men.

4 Yes, and Even His Own Life

Luke 14:26–27; Luke 9:23

- Does Jesus want a lot of people with bad self esteem? No. Jesus wants our everything. Jesus knows our weaknesses.
- He knows that we are influenced by those closest to us, a mother, a father.
- If anyone would come after me, let him deny himself and take up his cross daily and follow me.
- If anyone comes to me, we need a relationship with Jesus. And we need it so badly that our eternal destination hangs in the balance.

5 If Salt Has Lost Its Taste

Luke 14:34–35

- Salt is good. But if salt has lost its taste, how shall its saltiness be restored?
- Am I like salt that can lose its flavor, lose its function?
- There's just the one path to becoming his disciple. That's to love no one more than Jesus.
- I will seek first the kingdom of God and his righteousness. It is then that I am Christ's disciple.

> THE CHALLENGE
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> **Are you a disciple of Christ? If so, you love him more than anything and even anyone.**

MY NOTES