

**Series "Knowing The Exact Truth"
"Counting The Cost"
Luke 14:25-35
Study-63**

**Jesus describes the commitment necessary to be His disciple.
Discipleship requires wholehearted Devotion and Action to God.**

Luke 9:51-19:27 The Rejection Of The Son Of Man:

Luke 14 The Dynamics Of Discipleship:

Harmony of The Gospels: Matthew 5:13-14; 10:37-38; Mark 9:50

Thought Of Our Passage: "Salvation Is Acceptance By Faith To God's Invitation
But Discipleship Involves Commitment And Sacrifice."

- 1. Verses 25-27 The Declaration**
- 2. Verses 28-32 The Illustration**
- 3. Verses 33-35 The Application**

1. Verses 25-27 The Declaration

Luke 14:25 Now - Context - Jesus had been invited to the home of one of the leaders of the Pharisees on the Sabbath to eat bread

Luke 14:1-24 Dinner Party

Luke 15:24 'The opportunity that was being offered to the people would end.

large crowds were going along with Him; Jesus is continuing towards Jerusalem and they think He is going to establish His kingdom.

Luke 13:33

and He turned and said to them, - Notice who Jesus is speaking to **large crowds**

Luke 14:26 "If anyone comes to Me, - What does that mean?

This is a person that is coming to present himself to Jesus. He is reporting for service. He is surrendering his life to God for service!

Discipleship – *"follower of the teacher and His teaching."*

Jesus Gives 2 Conditions:

1st Condition (Loyalty) - Must Forsake All Other Relationships:

and does not hate his own father and mother – hate *"to love a great deal less."* Love for God makes other relationships far less.

**his own father and mother Matthew 19:19
and does not hate his own wife Ephesians 5:25
and does not hate his own children Mark 10:15-16
and does not hate his own brothers and sisters, Luke 6:27
yes, and even his own life,**

What Jesus is giving here is a comparison, a hyperbole: *Our love for Jesus must be so great and so pervasive that our natural love of family is like hate compared to our love for Him.*

Every relationship and our own self are to take second place to our relationship to God. He is our first loyalty.

he cannot be My disciple. (3times Verse 26, 27,33)

Luke 14:27

2nd Condition (Actions) - Forsake By Following:

**"Whoever does not carry his own cross
What does Jesus mean by the cross?**

and take up his own cross - (Aorist tense Speaks of a definite decision) The cross was a *symbol of death*.

The cross is an instrument of death. (Our death!) It is voluntary acceptance of something we can reject. **Luke 9:23**

**Discipleship is a series of deaths-perpetual dying.
Discipleship, following Jesus on a path of self-denial.
Discipleship, embrace suffering as a part of life. Matthew
16:21-27; Mark 8:34-38; Luke 9:22-26**

Galatians 2:20; Philippians 3:10-11

**The Cross Means Character Before Comfort!
(We are always on the road, always under renovation!)**

and come after Me - (Greek Present tense, speaks of *continually following*) obedience.

cannot be My disciple. (Are we on the road with Jesus?)

2. Verses 28-32 The Illustration

**Verses 28-30 Cost Of Unfinished Tower: (Within/Private) "For which one of you, when he wants to build a tower,
Notice here that the builder is free to choose if he wants to build or not!**

Tower for a home (Vineyard) or town (Defense).

does not first sit down and calculate the cost to see if he has enough to complete it?

What good is it to attempt to build a tower and not be able to finish it?

Luke 14:29

**Incur Financial Loss: not able to finish, (Backslide)
Incur Ridicule: all who observe it begin to ridicule him,**

Luke 14:30 Building a life is compared to building a tower. There is a cost to be paid. It is hard work and some progress with a completion is expected.

Verses 31-32 Cost Of Unwaged War: (Without/Public) Luke 14:31

first sit down and consider - Are my 10,000 able to go up against 20,000?

Luke 14:32 We don't have the army to win the battle. So, let's negotiate.

This poor calculation could cost the kingdom, his soldiers, and the king's life.

**Man has no resources in himself for the work within or the war without. Jesus is the master builder and the mighty conqueror.
Matthew 16:18**

3. Verses 33-35 The Application

Luke 14:33 "So then, - What has he said? Deny self, count the cost before building.

none of you can be My disciple who does not give up all his own possessions.

Note Jesus talks about "All His Own Possessions!"

One of the great tests of discipleship is what we are doing with our resources! (It's not a matter of how much we make!)

Are We Generously Giving to God? Matthew 6:24

Are We Willing To make Sacrifices?

Verses 34-35 Cost Of Half-Saltiness: Luke 14:34 "Therefore,

(Lack of total commitment nullifies discipleship) **salt is good**; Jesus said it was good! **Matthew 5:13-16**

Salt had 2 usages in Jesus' day:

1. Salt Is A Preservative: It's been known for ages that salt preserves (sodium chloride). It was rubbed into meats to keep it from becoming a rotted carcass.

The Christian is the salt. The world is the rotting carcass which has no power to preserve itself or to maintain its life.

2. Salt Is A Seasoning: Colossians 4:5-6; John 7:37-38

We cannot meet the need. This is so important for us to know. **We should make a world thirsty for Jesus Christ!**

but if even salt has become tasteless, (*"moronic" to become foolish, nonsense*)

A person who professes Jesus Christ, but it is only in words, is useless. Matthew 5:13; Mark 9:50

Luke 14:35 Insipid - "It is useless either for the soil or for the manure pile;

it is thrown out. Does that mean loss of salvation? No effectiveness, usefulness.

He who has ears to hear, let him hear." Am I listening to what God is saying today?

Application:

1. Being A Disciple Of Jesus Is The Giving Of Total Loyalty To Jesus Christ. It Is Putting Jesus Christ Before All Other Relationships.
2. Discipleship Is A Series Of Deaths-Perpetual Dying. Discipleship Is Following Jesus On A Path Of Self-Denial. Discipleship Embraces Suffering As A Part Of Life.
3. R.V.G. Tasker said, "The Disciples Are 'To Be A Moral Disinfectant In A World Where Moral Standards Are Low, Constantly Changing, Or Non-Existent."