

COUNTING THE LOST

WHAT IT REALLY MEANS
TO FOLLOW JESUS

2016 – Disciple Nations for Christ

The Cost of Discipleship

Luke 14:25-27

25 Now great crowds accompanied him, and he turned and said to them, 26 “If anyone comes to me and does not hate his own father and mother and wife and children and brothers and sisters, yes, and even his own life, he cannot be my disciple. 27 Whoever does not bear his own cross and come after me cannot be my disciple.

The Cost of Discipleship

Luke 14:28-30

28 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? 29 Otherwise, when he has laid a foundation and is not able to finish, all who see it begin to mock him, 30 saying, 'This man began to build and was not able to finish

The Cost of Discipleship

Luke 14:31-33

31 Or what king, going out to encounter another king in war, will not sit down first and deliberate whether he is able with ten thousand to meet him who comes against him with twenty thousand? 32 And if not, while the other is yet a great way off, he sends a delegation and asks for terms of peace. 33 So therefore, any one of you who does not renounce all that he has cannot be my disciple.

The Cost of Discipleship

Luke 14:34-35

34 "Salt is good, but if salt has lost its taste, how shall its saltiness be restored? 35 It is of no use either for the soil or for the manure pile. It is thrown away. He who has ears to hear, let him hear."

The Radical Cost of Discipleship

1 We must give up the people that are most dear to us.

- In verse 26, Jesus says, “If anyone comes to Me, and does not hate his own father and mother and wife and children and brothers and sisters, yes, and even his own life, he cannot be My disciple.”
- Hate here means love more than our love to Him

The Radical Cost of Discipleship

2 We must give up the comforts that are most dear to us.

- **In verse 27, Jesus says, “Whoever does not carry his own cross and come after Me cannot be My disciple.”**
- **You can't be His disciple, unless you carry your own cross, and accept the suffering and pain that comes to you because of your allegiance to Him.**

The Radical Cost of Discipleship

3 We must give up the things that are most dear to us.

- In verse 33, Jesus says, “So then, none of you can be My disciple who does not give up all his own possessions.”
- The issue really comes down to this – will you pursue a life of materialism, or a life of obeying Jesus Christ? What are you really living for?
- Him or Mamon (Wealth) – Matthew 6:24

The Danger of Rashly Embracing Leadership

1 Ridicule

- Person building a tower (v. 28-30)

2 Destruction

- King going to war (v. 31-32)

3 Uselessness

- Salt that has lost its taste (v. 34-35)