

The Cost of Discipleship

Discipleship is a Relationship

1. With God
2. With Family
3. With the Church
4. With the Lost

Suggested Memory Verses

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| Luke 13:25-33 | John 8:31-32 |
| John 13:34-35 | Acts 11:26 |
| 2 Corinthians 7:10-11 | |

Purpose: To help someone see what the cost is in becoming a disciple of Jesus.

Review:

- 1.) The love of God is the heart of life. (Prov. 4:23)
- 2.) Sin separates us from God. (Is. 59:1-2; Rom.6:23)
- 3.) The cross is the answer to sin (Acts 4:12; Luke 19:10; I Tim. 1:15)

I. Read Luke 9:21-27 - Jesus' definition of a Disciple

- A. Deny myself
- B. Take up my cross – Luke 9:23 (discuss Jesus' cross)
- C. Follow Jesus
- D. Lose my life
- E. Not be ashamed of Him and His words

II. Luke 5:1-11 - The spirit of a Disciple

A. Submission - "Because you say so, I will."

1. Submission - yielding in spite of pride, lack of understanding, etc.
2. Not opinions and traditions (John 8:31-32)
3. What kind of book is the Bible? (John 17:17)

B. Conviction - "Go away from me. I am a sinful man!"

1. What convicted Peter?
2. Peter was afraid and wanted to separate himself from God's presence; Why?

C. Purpose - Jesus' response, "Don't be afraid; from now on, you will catch men."

1. Is there a better cause for a child of God than John 17:4? (Read Jesus' words in John 17:4. Is there any greater purpose for a child of God, then completing the work God gives him to do?)
2. Don't be afraid, have faith in Jesus. Faith is the opposite of fear.
3. Jesus' vision for His disciples was for them to be fishers of men. (John 15:8)

(The Cost of Discipleship Continued)

D. Commitment - They "left everything and followed Him."

1. Being a disciple is a commitment. When is it most difficult to be a disciple of Jesus? (Luke 9:57)

2. Why count the cost?(Luke 14:25-33 Jesus wanted people to know what they were committing themselves to in becoming a disciple.) Why does it seem to be so difficult to be committed to Jesus and His words?

3. The cost of following Jesus will impact close relationships.

a. Father/Mother - Will they be open and encouraging or will they disown you for committing to Christ or disown you for paying the price? (note: A minor needs to have parental consent before being immersed.)

Do you think a minor should get parental consent for immersion? Why or why not?

b. Wife/Husband - Will they be excited or resentful, supportive or unsupportive? You will have to live as a Christian. Will they let you? On the plus side, a committed Christian makes a great spouse (1 Pet. 3:1-2).

c. Children - Will you be willing to make the necessary changes in attitudes and discipline? Will they accept your new lifestyle? Your commitment is a great opportunity for your children. It means they will be raised by a Christian parent. (1 Tim. 4:16)

d. Brothers/Sisters - Will you be an influence on them or will they be an influence on you?

e. Boyfriend/Girlfriend - Read 2 Corinthians 6:14- 7:1 and 1 Corinthians 15:33. The Bible teaches that Christians are to marry Christians. If your girlfriend/boyfriend does not want to become a Christian, then you should consider ending the relationship. Why?

f. Your own life - Jesus teaches that you must even hate your own life to become a disciple. You must turn from sin and turn to God (2 Corinthians 5:15). What does it mean to hate your own life?

(The Cost of Discipleship Continued)

**Question: When you follow someone as a disciple, you become like that person. Do you want to be like Jesus?
What must you give up or change to become the best disciple you can be of Jesus Christ?**

Drawing conclusions and receiving challenges from the "Cost of Discipleship" study:

- A. Luke 9:24-25 - Only in losing life do you find life. To gain our soul (or salvation) is worth more than all the earth.
- B. As a result of this study, do you realize the importance of counting the cost in becoming a disciple of Jesus?
- C. What have been some of the costs that you have had to pay to follow Jesus?
- D. What hinders you most in **your desire** to follow Jesus and become like Him?



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