

The Cost of Discipleship

Luke 14:25-35

Faith Builders @ Countryside Bible Church

The Cost of Discipleship (Luke 14:25-35)

The Setting – Large Crowds (25)

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1. A disciple is committed to love Christ above **his family** (26)

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1. A disciple is committed to love Christ above his family (26)
2. A disciple is committed to love Christ above himself (27)
3. A disciple has **calculated the cost** of following Jesus (28-32)
 1. The Builder (28-30)
 2. The King (31-32)

“The Christian landscape is strewn with the wreckage of derelict, half-built towers—the ruins of those who began to build and were unable to finish. For thousands of people still ignore Christ’s warning and undertake to follow him without first pausing to reflect on the cost of doing so. The result is the great scandal of Christendom today, so-called ‘nominal Christianity.’ In countries to which Christian civilization has spread, large numbers of people have covered themselves with a decent, but thin, veneer of Christianity. They have allowed themselves to become somewhat involved; enough to be respectable but not enough to be uncomfortable. Their religion is a great, soft cushion. It protects them from the hard unpleasantness of life, while changing its place and shape to suit their convenience. No wonder the cynics speak of hypocrites in the church and dismiss religion as escapism.”

John Stott, *‘Basic Christianity’* [Downer’s Grove, Ill.: Inter-Varsity, 1978], 108.

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4. A disciple is committed to love Christ above his **possessions** (33)

Matthew 19:16–22 (NASB95)

¹⁶And someone came to Him and said, “Teacher, what good thing shall I do that I may obtain eternal life?”

¹⁷And He said to him, “Why are you asking Me about what is good? There is only One who is good; but if you wish to enter into life, keep the commandments.”

¹⁸Then he said to Him, “Which ones?” And Jesus said, “YOU SHALL NOT COMMIT MURDER; YOU SHALL NOT COMMIT ADULTERY; YOU SHALL NOT STEAL; YOU SHALL NOT BEAR FALSE WITNESS;

¹⁹HONOR YOUR FATHER AND MOTHER; and YOU SHALL LOVE YOUR NEIGHBOR AS YOURSELF.”

²⁰The young man said to Him, “All these things I have kept; what am I still lacking?”

²¹Jesus said to him, “If you wish to be complete, go and sell your possessions and give to the poor, and you will have treasure in heaven; and come, follow Me.”

²²But when the young man heard this statement, he went away grieving; for he was one who owned much property.

The Ten Commandments (Ex. 20:1-17)

1. You shall have no other Gods before me (3)
2. You shall not make for yourselves an idol (4)
3. You shall not take the name of the LORD your God in vain (7)
4. Remember the Sabbath day to keep it holy (8)
5. Honor your father and your mother (12)
6. You shall not murder (13)
7. You shall not commit adultery (14)
8. You shall not steal (15)
9. You shall not bear false witness i.e. You shall not lie (16)
10. You shall not covet (17)

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4. A disciple is committed to love Christ above his possessions (33)
5. A disciple is committed to **influence** (34-35)

- Preservative (Lev. 2:13; 2 Chr. 13:5; Ps. 89:34-37)
- Enhancing Flavor / Taste (Luke 14:34-35)

“Most competent historians are agreed in saying that what undoubtedly saved [England] from a revolution such as that experienced in France at the end of the eighteenth century was nothing but the Evangelical Revival. This was not because anything was done directly, but because masses of individuals had become Christians and were living this better life and had this higher outlook. The whole political situation was affected, and the great Acts of Parliament which were passed in the last century were mostly due to the fact that there were such large numbers of individual Christians found in the land”

Martin Lloyd Jones, *Studies in the Sermon on the Mount* [Grand Rapids: Eerdmans, 1971], 1:157.

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