

The Call and Cost of Being a Disciple

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**Being a
Disciple
Costs
Everything...
Are You
In? Are
You Sure?**



Luke 14: 25-35

²⁵Large crowds were traveling with Jesus, and turning to them he said: ²⁶"If anyone comes to me and does not hate his father and mother, his wife and children, his brothers and sisters—yes, even his own life—he cannot be my disciple. ²⁷And anyone who does not carry his cross and follow me cannot be my disciple.

²⁸"Suppose one of you wants to build a tower. Will he not first sit down and estimate the cost to see if he has enough money to complete it? ²⁹For if he lays the foundation and is not able to finish it, everyone who sees it will ridicule him, ³⁰saying, 'This fellow began to build and was not able to finish.'

³¹"Or suppose a king is about to go to war against another king. Will he not first sit down and consider whether he is able with ten thousand men to oppose the one coming against him with twenty thousand? ³²If he is not able, he will send a delegation while the other is still a long way off and will ask for terms of peace. ³³In the same way, any of you who does not give up everything he has cannot be my disciple.

³⁴"Salt is good, but if it loses its saltiness, how can it be made salty again? ³⁵It is fit neither for the soil nor for the manure pile; it is thrown out.

"He who has ears to hear, let him hear."

A DIFFICULT TEACHING OF JESUS

Understanding the context...

1. The Demands of Being a Disciple.

- a. **Following Jesus takes priority over all other relationships. (v. 26)**
- b. **Following Jesus takes priority over even our own lives. (v. 26)**
- c. **Following Jesus takes priority over our plans or comfort. (v. 27)**

2. The Decision to Become a Disciple.

Both stories instruct us to intentionally;

- **count the cost,**
- **assess our resources,**
- **make a decision.**

Each story illustrates a different decision, motivation, and outcome.

	Tower (v. 28-30)	King (v. 31-33)
Decision	Taken Lightly	Complete Surrender
Motivation	Self / Pride	Kingdom / Humility
Outcome	Uselessness	Usefulness

3. The Distinctive Nature of a Disciple.

A disciple is like salt....

- **God created salt and gave it its properties.**
- **Salt serves valuable and distinct functions.**
- **When salt is diluted, it loses its 'saltiness'.**
- **Salt without 'saltiness' is useless.**

A DIFFICULT TEACHING TO APPLY

Thoughts to ponder....

- **Am I a 'disciple' or part of the crowd?**
- **Do I understand what Jesus asks of a disciple?**
- **Am I regularly and intentionally choosing to be a disciple? Does my life reflect this?**
- **Am I trying to be a disciple in my own strength, or by God's?**
- **Do those around me see me as distinct, or has my saltiness been diluted?**

Things to ask God this week...

- **What in my life is currently placed at a higher priority than following Jesus?**
- **What would you like me to 'give up'? What plan, comfort, possession, habit, desire, relationship, prejudice, behaviour?**
- **Will you be my strength, comfort, and guide in doing so?**