

Sermon Notes
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THE HIGH CALLING OF MAKING DISCIPLES
Part 4 - "The Cost of Discipleship"

Text: Luke 14:25-34; Matthew 16:24-28

INTRODUCTION:

I. Discipleship Involves Painful Prioritization, Luke 14:25

"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."

- A. Understanding the context of the word "hate"
- B. How do we embrace divine priorities?

CHECKING MYSELF

1. Do I have a passion that results in a supreme love for Jesus?
2. Do I have a purpose that is resolved to please Him?
3. Do I have priorities in place that reflect my love for Christ, and my desire to follow Him however/wherever He leads me?

II. Discipleship Includes the Sacrifice of Self-denial, Matthew 16:24;

Luke 14:27

"If anyone would come after me, he must deny himself, take up his cross and follow me."

"And anyone who does not carry his cross and follow me cannot be my disciple."

- A. Understanding the concept of self-denial
- B. How do we deny ourselves?

CHECKING MYSELF

1. Am I surrendering myself to the place of being "crucified with Christ?" Am I willing to lay my desires and plans aside?
2. Am I satisfied that I have "taken up my cross?" Am I pursuing the will of God for my life even though it requires a sacrifice on my part?
3. Am I seeking to follow Jesus every step of the way?

III. Discipleship Invites the Calculation of Cost, Luke 24:28-33

"In the same way, any of you who does not give up everything he has cannot be my disciple."

- A. Understanding the cost of discipleship
- B. How do we count the cost?

CHECKING MYSELF

1. Is there anything I have that is controlling me?
2. Is there anything I am holding on to that I need to give to God?
3. Is there anything that hinders my discipleship because I am unwilling to release it to God?

IV. Discipleship Illuminates the Validity of Our Values,

Matthew 16:25-28

"For whoever wants to save his life will lose it, but whoever loses his life for my and find it. What good will it be for a man if he gains the whole world yet forfeits his soul? Or what can a man give in exchange for his soul?"

- A. Understanding how we clarify our values
- B. How do we know what I truly value?

CHECKING MYSELF

1. Am I connected to the things of temporal value only?
2. Am I committed to the value of a soul (58), a life (40)?, Psyche—translated either way.
3. Am I compromised in values I profess and what I possess?