

DO YOU REALLY WANT TO BE A DISCIPLE?

August 8, 21 | Luke 9:57-62; 14:25-35 | Dr. Todd Beall

A true disciple:

- 1) makes _____ (Luke 9:57–62)
- 2) loves Christ _____ (Luke 14:25–26; 9:59–60)
- 3) is prepared to _____ (Luke 14:27; 9:58)
- 4) knows that _____ (Luke 14:28–33)
- 5) has one distinctive purpose:

(Luke 14:34–35; 9:62)

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

1. What are some of the excuses given in Luke 9:57–62 for not following Jesus wholeheartedly? What are some of the excuses that we make?
2. What are some Scripture passages that show that God wants us to honor and value our family? How can we reconcile these passages with what Jesus says in Luke 14:26?
3. In *The Cost of Discipleship*, Dietrich Bonhoeffer said that “if our Christianity has ceased to be serious about discipleship, ... we have forgotten that the cross means rejection and shame as well as suffering....Suffering is the badge of true discipleship” (pp. 78-80). Do you agree? How was Bonhoeffer able to put these statements into practice?

4. Discuss the cost of following Christ wholeheartedly in various countries around the world (for example, North Korea, Afghanistan, Pakistan, Nigeria, Turkey, and China).
5. What do you think has been the cost of following Christ in the U.S.? Have you had any experiences of rejection or scorn as a result of following Christ?
6. The statements Jesus utters here are quite radical. Do you think they are intended only for “super disciples” (such as Peter, James, John, Paul, and Pastor Mike [!]) or for all of us?
7. Do any of the statements Jesus makes here in Luke 9 and 14 contradict the principle that our salvation is by grace alone through faith, and not by our works? Discuss Ephesians 2:8–10 in light of what Jesus says here.
8. Jesus says in Matthew 5:13–15 that disciples are to be the salt of the earth and the light of the world. In what ways are you pointing others to Christ by your lifestyle? (give examples from the last month) How can you be more purposeful in doing so?
9. [for parents] How are you encouraging your children to follow Christ wholeheartedly by your own lifestyle? Are there some areas for improvement?

Current in-person Sunday bible fellowship schedule

9:00 AM

Bridge (room 326)
Cornerstone (room 229)
Ladies Bible (room 227)

11:00 AM

Kid’s Sunday School (ages birth – 4-y/o)
Bruce/Claybrook (room 228) *class begins at 10:45*
Men’s Class (room 324)
Timeline to Eternity (room 226) *virtual recap with instructor, Eric Nelson, at 1:00*
Zimmerman/Scesa (room 327)