

Discipleship

(Luke 14:25-35)

- Introduction:
1. It seems that many wish to wear the name of Jesus, but don't know anything about discipleship.
 2. More than a few people who claim to be Christians don't understand the definition of discipleship.
 3. They want Christianity on their terms, rather than God's terms.
 4. Let's examine what God's terms are for being a disciple of Jesus.

I. To Be A Disciple, One Must Be Committed To Jesus Above Everything Else

- A. (Luke 14:25-26).
- B. Jesus must come before everything - our families, jobs, possessions, hobbies, even our own lives.
- C. This applies to "anyone who comes to me."
- D. Many follow Jesus so long as they "get," but leave him when they must "give."

II. To Be A Disciple, One Must Be Committed To Jesus Above Everything Else

- A. (Luke 14:27).
- B. Jesus uses the cross to illustrate what it means to being a disciple.
- C. Discipleship and salvation are free, but at the same time, very costly.

III. To Be A Disciple, One Must Be Committed To Jesus Above Everything Else

- A. (Luke 14:28-32).
- B. Jesus doesn't want half-hearted followers; he asks them to count the cost up front.
- C. He's not interested in numbers, he's interested in disciples. He doesn't want crowds, he wants commitment.
- D. Could it be that those who call themselves Christians are just as likely as non-Christians to unscripturally divorce, tell lies, watch inappropriate movies, curse, view pornography on the Internet, gossip, engage in premarital sex, etc.

IV. To Be A Disciple, One Must Be Committed To Jesus Above Everything Else

- A. (Luke 34-35).
- B. Are we willing to be salt in the world?

- Conclusion:
1. The question that faces us today is not whether we can be disciples of Jesus, but rather are we willing to be disciples of Jesus.
 2. Certainly we are weak and will sometimes fail, but the thing Jesus is discussing here is not our performance, but our willingness or commitment.
 3. And if you missed the point, *To Be A Disciple, One Must Be Committed To Jesus Above Everything Else!*
 4. Are you willing?