

Luke 14:25-35 “The Cost of Love”
February 13-14, 2010, Message #DC130

THE TRUTH IS: everything has a price.

Large crowds were traveling with Jesus, and turning to them he said: "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. And anyone who does not carry his cross and follow me cannot be my disciple. "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? For if he lays the foundation and is not able to finish it, everyone who sees it will ridicule him, saying, 'This fellow began to build and was not able to finish.' "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? If 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. In the same way, any of you who does not give up everything he has cannot be my disciple. "Salt is good, but if it loses its saltiness, how can it be made salty again? It is fit neither for the soil nor for the manure pile; it is thrown out. "He who has ears to hear, let him hear." (Luke 14:25-35)

God cares about me today NOT because I am a part of this crowd – but because He loves ME.

- **Loving God Will Cost Me Putting Everyone and Everything Else AFTER Him.**

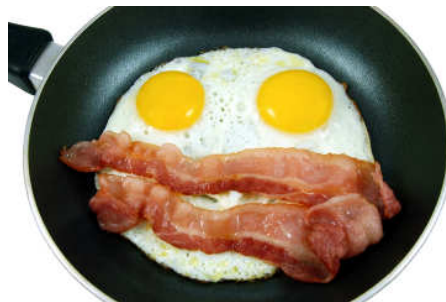
"If anyone comes to me and does not hate his father and mother, his wife and children, his brothers and sisters — yes, even his own life — he cannot be my disciple. (Luke 14:26)

Jesus is being upfront and honest with each individual about what it is going to cost them to BE A DISCIPLE OF HIS.

Definition of Disciple: “A Lifelong learner under Discipline.”

Jesus is sharing with them that there is a COST COMMITMENT if we are going to be a DISCIPLE of His.

A COMMITMENT is an agreement that you make to do something.



For many of those in the crowd that day – they had signed on to receive a CROWN – they never realized that for Christ Followers – CROWNS only come WITH CROSSES.

Our LOYALTY to OTHERS should pale in comparison to OUR LOYALTY to JESUS.

The Cost of Loving God is that He gets the PREEMINENCE in our LIVES.

- **Loving God Will Cost Me Bearing My Own Cross.**

And anyone who does not carry his cross and follow me cannot be my disciple. (Luke 14:27)

Jesus loves you and I enough to always tell us the TRUTH – even when it hurts!

“the people living in darkness have seen a great light; on those living in the land of the shadow of death a light has dawned.” (Matthew 4:16)

Suddenly, they are confronted with the reality that there is more to being a DISCIPLE than just listening to Jesus teach – watching him feed the multitudes – and heal the sick

THE CROWDS that were following Jesus **KNEW VERY WELL** what **“BEARING A CROSS”** was all about.

- **Loving God Will Cost Me Dying to My Own Will.**

Spiritually, **BEARING OUR CROSS** means that we are done **FIGHTING AGAINST THE AUTHORITY OF GOD** and **HIS RULES** and **COMMANDMENTS**.

"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? For if he lays the foundation and is not able to finish it, everyone who sees it will ridicule him, saying, 'This fellow began to build and was not able to finish.' (Luke 14:28-30)

Salvation is FREE – But being a DISCIPLE has a cost.

In the same way, any of you who does not give up everything he has cannot be my disciple. (Luke 14:33)

What the crowd that day did not understand – was that Jesus wasn't asking them to do anything that He wasn't **PREPARED TO DO HIMSELF**: He would **PAY** the **ULTIMATE COST OF LOVE** (his own life).

“And everyone who has left houses or brothers or sisters or father or mother or children or fields for my sake will receive a hundred times as much and will inherit eternal life.” (Matthew 19:29)

"Salt is good, but if it loses its saltiness, how can it be made salty again? It is fit neither for the soil nor for the manure pile; it is thrown out. (Luke 14:34-35)

We STAYSALTY BY:

Practicing self discipline...

Every day, present yourself to God's for His use....

Love has a cost – Discipleship has a cost – BUT THE REWARD is GREATER.

"He who has ears to hear, let him hear." (Luke 14:35)

All Bible references are from the New International Version (NIV) unless otherwise noted.