

**Sunday, December 4, 2016**

“The Cost of Discipleship”

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Key Passages: Luke 14:25-35

- Feel free to read the passage(s) out loud as a group
- Now would also be a great time to allow the group to share freely about what stood out to them from the passage or from Sunday's message

Main Ideas

- Context
  - Starting in Luke 9 Jesus knew that his time had come
  - People were following him to “see the show” and were really fans more than followers
  - In this passage Jesus gets their attention and explains what it really means to follow him
- In v26 Jesus uses hyperbole to get their attention and draw on the culture of family as identity
- It's not about hating your family it is about the priority of Jesus in your life
- Jesus says: If anyone does not.... then he or she cannot...BE A DISCIPLE
- Jesus then makes 5 **You Must** statements
- **You Must...** Give me #1 Priority/Allegiance
  - We sometimes try to get from others what we can only get from God
  - He must have the number one spot
- **You Must...** Give me your very life (v27)
  - Bear your own cross
  - Cross = a symbol of death/execution
  - We have sanitized the cross (Jesus wasn't talking about a piece of jewelry)
  - Willing to die to self
- **You Must...** Count the cost and be all-in
  - Jesus tells us exactly what it will cost (there's no small print)
  - Satan won't tell us the cost, but it will be very dear
- **You Must...** Hold nothing back (v33)
  - Money, time, politics, ethnicity, prestige
  - How would the landscape change if we believed and live holding nothing back?
- **You Must...** Be 100% Salt
  - We can not be who God wants and do what God wants if we are not committed to being 100%
  - Inside and outside
- There is a high cost to following Jesus, BUT we can never OUTGIVE God
- Our response is to give him our whole lives and to make him the top and first priority

Questions (Feel free to use all of these, some of these, or none of these)

1. Have you ever sincerely counted up the cost for following Jesus? How did it go?
2. What has following Jesus cost you in the past? What is it costing you right now? What will it cost you in the future?
3. Speaking honestly what priority does God take in your life?
4. What would it look like for Jesus to have the number one priority in your life? What would change and what would stay the same?
5. Is there something that you are holding back? What are the things/areas of your life that God is calling you to give more of?
6. How would the landscape of your family, job, and relationships change if you held nothing back?
7. How do you respond to the idea that you can't out-give God?
8. What is God calling you to or inviting you into as a result of this passage and message?