

# The High Cost of Following Jesus

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**Luke 14: 25-33**

# Brings into Question...

- How do you count the cost of following Jesus?
  - How do we discern the cost of discipleship in our individual calling?
  - How do we count the cost in advance when we don't know what will be required of us?
  - Can we assume that the cost is total?
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# Luke 14:28-32

- <sup>28</sup> For which of you, intending to build a tower, **does not sit down first and count the cost**, whether he has *enough* to finish it—  
<sup>29</sup> lest, after he has laid the foundation, and is not able to finish, all who see *it* begin to mock him, <sup>30</sup> saying, ‘This man began to build and was not able to finish’?
- <sup>31</sup> Or what king, going to make war against another king, **does not sit down first and consider** whether he is able with ten thousand to meet him who comes against him with twenty thousand? <sup>32</sup> Or else, while the other is still a great way off, he sends a delegation and asks conditions of peace.



Jesus said “If anyone comes to Me...

- Produce “Hatred” towards all things.
- Need to bear his own cross
- Come after Me

Our Lord requires upfront commitment to the highest possible cause

It will demand from you the highest price relationally and physically

We don't need to know exactly the specific of the cost.

# 3 Features of the Parable

## 1. The Highest Price

- Unconditional need for commitment to the highest possible cause
- The invitation is unrestrictive and free, but its demands are very costly.
- The other extreme: I'm calling you to get on a cross

## 2. No Negotiation

- <sup>33</sup> So likewise, **whoever of you** does not **forsake all** that he has **cannot be My disciple**.
- First absolute – invitation is lovingly and graciously offered to all. Second absolute - forsaking all!
- No negotiating here with Jesus. No calculating. The sign up is 100%!!!

# 3 Features of the Parable (Cont...)

## 3. Rich Reward

- <sup>14</sup> And you will be blessed, because they cannot repay you; for you shall be repaid at the resurrection of the just.”
- Your cost cannot be compared to your eternal reward (**Romans 8:18**)
- All the so-called costs and all the so-called losses — *everything* — are nothing compared to the gains of having Jesus!
- **Philippians 3:8** - What is more, I consider everything a loss because of the surpassing worth of knowing Christ Jesus my Lord, for whose sake I have lost all things. I consider them garbage, that I may gain Christ.

# The Answer...

- In the end, having Jesus means all the gain
- Authentic discipleship with Him is our highest possible cause
- Demands from us the highest price both relationally and physically
- The cost is nothing compared to the worth of knowing Christ