

THE KINGS ROYAL SUBJECTS

"The Price of Following Jesus"

Luke 9:57-62

INTRODUCTION:

1. **QUESTION:** "Have you ever heard someone say, *'If I had known what I was getting into, I never would have said Yes'*"
2. There is a cost to discipleship.
3. **Jesus calls disciples to follow Him even though there are no guarantees.**
 - a) In fact, there is often a cost associated with true discipleship.
 - b) AND that is why it's not a very popular concept, even though it's true.
4. In **Luke 9** we are introduced to *three men who walked away from following Christ*.
5. In **Luke 9**, Jesus didn't offer these men special discipleship deals.
 - a) What Jesus did offer them was himself and in reality, that's all they needed
6. A disciple is one who follows Christ and assists in spreading the good news.
7. **Luke 9:57-62**
 - a) In this passage Jesus and His disciples are headed toward Jerusalem.
 - 1) **Vs 51-55**

THREE EXAMPLES TALKING A GOOD GAME

(But unwilling to get off the bench.)

- As Jesus traveled during his ministry he encountered many would-be followers.
- God's goal is not merely your salvation but your commitment to discipleship.
- God's desire isn't just for us to show up to church on Sunday but to be visible, verbal followers every day.

I. PROSPECTIVE DISCIPLE #1

1. **Vs 57**
 - a) *"I will follow you..."* actually means, *"I will imitate you"*
 - b) *"wherever you go"*
2. Notice Jesus' reply: Jesus has a way of exposing our motives.
 - a) **Vs 58a**
 - 1) *"Foxes have holes, and birds of the air have nests..."* Jesus said to him,

b) Vs 58b

1) *"but the Son of Man has nowhere to lay his head."*

3. Jesus basically said that He had no permanent home and if someone chose to follow Him, there were guarantees they would have a home.

a) That the call to become a disciple will become hard at times.

4. **2 Timothy 3:12**

5. **THERE IS ABSOLUTELY NO DOUBT** that this man SAW with his own eyes the miracles of Jesus and thought he wanted to be part of the action.

II. PROSPECTIVE DISCIPLE #2

1. Vs 59

a) *"To another he said, Follow me"*

1) The word "follow" means to imitate - **"Come imitate me."**

2. So, this second guy was a **conscientious observer** and was listening to the conversation Jesus had with the first guy.

a) A **conscientious observer** is someone who pays close attention to details and observes situations with care and thoughtfulness but doesn't get involved.

3. **LOOK AT HOW THIS MAN RESPONDED - Vs 59**

a) *"Lord"* - He addresses Jesus as **"Master"**.

b) *"Let me first go bury my father"*

4. **NOW LOOK AT WHAT JESUS SAID - Vs 60**

a) *"Leave the dead bury their own dead"*

1) What is Jesus talking about?

2) Aren't we supposed to honor our parents?

3) However, when we investigate Jewish culture, if that man's father had actually died, he would be with him @ home.

b) Jesus was saying **"Let the spiritually dead, bury the spiritually dead."**

5. This man was actually telling Jesus, that he needed to put off following Jesus until a day when his father would die.

a) And then of course the legal matters of the estate would be settled.

6. Jesus said, **"Let the dead bury their dead. But as for you, go and proclaim the kingdom of God."**

a) Jesus' point was you can't delay the calling of the Kingdom.

7. **LISTEN UP:** But isn't that what so many Christians do?
 - a) So many Christians just aren't ready to fully commit.
8. Discipleship always comes with a cost.
 - a) **Matthew 16:24**

III. PROSPECTIVE DISCIPLE #3

1. **Vs 61**
 - a) Like the first man he said, "***I will follow you Lord***" (Master)
 - b) "***but first let me say farewell to those at my home***"
2. Sounds reasonable!! Especially since he was going away for a while and not exactly sure when he would be back.
3. **Vs 62**
4. Jesus sees right through empty words.
 - a) He knew the potential was there to linger and get talked out of following Jesus by his family.
 - b) The man's mention of his family left the door open for them to persuade him to rethink his decision.
5. Jesus says that anybody who looks back after starting out on the path of following Him is not fit for the kingdom.
 - a) Why is that? Because you can't plow looking over your shoulder.
6. Jesus is saying that if we try to plow looking back, we are going to mess up His Kingdom agenda.
7. **Luke 17:32**
 - a) She left Sodom, but Sodom never left her.
 - b) She heard the fire and brimstone raining down on Sodom.
 - 1) She remembered her friends back there.
 - 2) She remembered all her possessions back there.
 - 3) She began to regret leaving.
 - 4) So, she looked back despite the angel's warning. **Genesis 19:17**
 - c) **AND GOD STOPPED HER RIGHT THERE - Genesis 19:26**
 - 1) She was judged unfit to go any further.

CONCLUSION:

1. In **Genesis 22**, God asked for and received Abraham's offer of sacrificing his son Isaac.
2. When you give God your first and best, He gives you His first and best.
3. If you make God and His kingdom a priority, He knows where the rams in the thickets hang out.
4. You can trust Him with everything. In order to live as a King's Royal Subject, we will have to do just that.