

Friday, March 3rd

Luke 14:25-33

A large crowd was following Jesus. He turned around and said to them, 26 “If you want to be my disciple, you must, by comparison, hate everyone else—your father and mother, wife and children, brothers and sisters—yes, even your own life. Otherwise, you cannot be my disciple. 27 And if you do not carry your own cross and follow me, you cannot be my disciple. 28 “But don’t begin until you count the cost. For who would begin construction of a building without first calculating the cost to see if there is enough money to finish it? 29 Otherwise, you might complete only the foundation before running out of money, and then everyone would laugh at you. 30 They would say, ‘There’s the person who started that building and couldn’t afford to finish it!’ 31 “Or what king would go to war against another king without first sitting down with his counselors to discuss whether his army of 10,000 could defeat the 20,000 soldiers marching against him? 32 And if he can’t, he will send a delegation to discuss terms of peace while the enemy is still far away. 33 So you cannot become my disciple without giving up everything you own.



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There is a difference between coming to God and being a disciple of Jesus. When it comes to discipleship, He wants only those who will pay the price. The price is self-denial and that means our lives are no longer our own. Jesus was preaching to a crowd of people whose hearts were not ready for the cross. Jesus knew that many of those people needed to count the cost of discipleship because it meant standing out in the crowd. They had come for salvation but, if they were not willing to give up everything, they could not be His disciple. The same is still true today.

