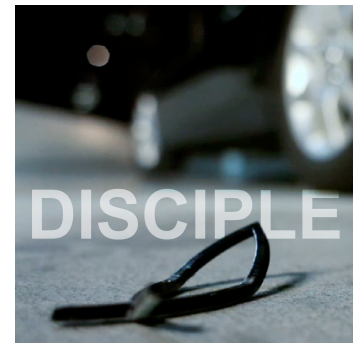


onechurch

bigIdea



To love Jesus isn't based around a feeling, or how we sing a song, or how much you go to church. Jesus doesn't base how much we love Him by whether you go to a foreign country or how much money you give in the offering plate. Jesus gauges how much we love Him based upon obedience. *Jesus wants our love.*

BIG IDEA: A disciple loves Jesus incomparably by obeying Him wholeheartedly.

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

1. When you're playing a "high-stakes" game, are you more likely to play it safe or gamble everything on the next play? Do you play it safe in life? Are you going all-in with your relationship with Jesus?
2. Read Luke 14:25-35. What does Jesus say to the crowds about family? In this context, what does He mean by *hate*? (also see Matthew 10:37) Why do you think Jesus chose these relationships: father, mother, wife, children, etc? What does Jesus mean by carrying a cross?
3. Read Exodus 20:1-17 and Mark 12:28-30. Jesus boils down the Ten Commandments into two laws—love God and love others. Why are these two commandments the greatest? How do the Ten Commandments relate to these two? (*Loving God* covers commandments? *Loving others* covers what commandments?)
4. Do you tend to give Jesus pieces of yourself (certain moments, some lifestyle choices, etc) or give Him your whole self? Which is better? Why?
5. In Mark 12:30, Jesus says He wants all of our heart, soul, mind, and strength. In your opinion, what does the heart represent? The soul? One's mind? Strength? Do you think God left us a loophole *not* to love Him with our entire selves?
6. How do you show your love for God? How does Jesus want us to show our love towards Him? (John 14:15)

Chris says, "*God wants all of our love. But it is easy for us to say we love God. Talk is cheap. We have all seen a guy tell a girl she loves him, when really they only wanted something else—they didn't love that girl. Talk is cheap. Love is easy to say and hard to measure. For our sake, we can't keep love nebulous. God never kept love nebulous. He always demonstrated love. He didn't just say, "I love you, world!" No, John 3:16 says that God so loved the world that He gave... Love is not love unless it's more than words.*"

7. When you think of the *word* obey, what comes to your mind? Jesus equates love with obedience six times (John 14:15, 21, 23-24; 15:10, 15:14). Why does He repeat Himself?
8. When did you realize that following Jesus was costly? How so?
9. What price have you had to pay, perhaps with friends or family?
10. Have you ever wondered since then if the cost was worth it? What keeps you following?

WHAT WILL YOU DO?

Get into an accountability relationship with someone in the group and start meeting together. Give them permission to start asking the hard questions in your life. Remember, accountability will only work if you are real with them and tell the truth!

VERSES TO GO DEEPER

Matthew 10:34-39, Luke 14:25-34, Mark 12:28-33, Matthew 8:18-22, John 14

