Reflecting on Moving Forward: Sacrifice January 31, 2021

Introduction: This Sunday's message is the third in a fourpart series on Moving Forward. Our key word for this week is *Sacrifice*. From our study, we can identify three sacrifices that Jesus requires from true disciples:

- 1. To be a disciple, God must take first place over every relationship.
- 2. To be a disciple, the mission of Jesus must outweigh my plans for my life.
- 3. To be a disciple, I must crucify my will.

The Big Idea of the message is that **God is looking for true disciples who are willing to sacrifice everything to follow him.**

Questions for Reflection and Discussion:

1. Of the three key words we have studied in this series (remember, prioritize, and sacrifice), which one is the most helpful/important for you to hear? Why?

- 2. In Luke 14, we find that in order to be a true disciple, a person must give Jesus first place over every other relationship.
 - What human relationships are most meaningful/important to you?

• What might it look like for your commitment to Christ to take priority over those relationships?

3. Jesus tells his audience that in order to be a disciple one must "hate" his/her own life." What does it look like to sacrifice your own life for the sake of following Jesus?

4. Jesus tells the crowd that being a disciple means "bearing your cross." What does it mean to bear your cross (an instrument of death) in order to follow Christ?

5. In Luke 14:33, Jesus summarizes his whole argument when he says that true disciples "renounce everything that they have." Over the course of your relationship with Jesus (past and present), what things have been the greatest hindrance to your relationship with God? What would it look like to renounce those things in order to follow Jesus?

6. Think of someone you know who is a true and dedicated disciple of Jesus. What makes you identify them as such? What do you admire about their commitment to Jesus?