

SEQUOIA NOTES

Today's Sequoia Message...

Preparing for the Journey

With Ryan Dawson - Lead Pastor
January 8, 2023



Will our journey leave us fulfilled or empty?

Jesus says in John 10:10 (NLT) “The thief’s purpose is to steal and kill and destroy. My purpose is to give them a rich and satisfying life.”

What are the requirements to become a disciple of Jesus Christ?

Luke 14:25-33 (NLT) 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 counsellors 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.”

- **Love Jesus first and most.**

v. 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.”

- **Calculate the cost of commitment.**

v. 28-30 “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!’

Luke 9:23-25 (MSG) Then he [Jesus] told them what they could expect for themselves: “Anyone who intends to come with me has to let me lead. You’re not in the driver’s seat—I am. Don’t run from suffering; embrace it. Follow me and I’ll show you how. Self-help is no help at all. Self-sacrifice is the way, my way, to finding yourself, your true self. What good would it do to get everything you want and lose you, the real you?

- **Salvation is free to us, but it cost Jesus everything.**

- **Surrender control to Christ as Leader.**

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Have you given Jesus Christ control of your time, money, career plans, relationships, & priorities?

Where do you need to relinquish control & invite Jesus Christ to be your Saviour King?

Big Idea: Live for Christ because He died for you.

John 6:66-69 (NLT) At this point many of his disciples turned away and deserted him. ⁶⁷ Then Jesus turned to the Twelve and asked, “Are you also going to leave?” ⁶⁸ Simon Peter replied, “Lord, to whom would we go? You have the words that give eternal life. ⁶⁹ We believe, and we know you are the Holy One of God.”

The Translation of the Bible Scriptures used in today's 10:10 service are from the New Living Translation (NLT) and the Message Bible (MSG).



Sequoia Impact Communities are where we
live out our identity as a
Family of Servants on Mission.
To get plugged in email:
impactcommunities@sequoiachurch.org

Preparing for the Journey
#1 of 5 - January 8, 2023

- 1) Last week we talked about establishing the rhythm of sabbath. What did you hear or sense God saying to you this week and how did you respond to His leading?
- 2) Take time to have one person explain and the practice the 3 Circles Gospel Presentation or share their testimony.
- 3) Read Luke 14:25-33. What is the **Context** for these passages? Where is this taking place in the book as a whole (what comes before or after)? Who is the writer / speaker and who are the recipients? Where does it fit in the Bible? What's the theme of this chapter, or passage? What's the historical and cultural context?
- 4) **Observation:** What "jumps out" in these passages? What interesting details do you observe? What questions come up about this passage? What images does Jesus use to help us understand the conditions of discipleship?
- 5) **Meaning:** What was the meaning for the original recipients? What does it mean for us as we seek to be disciples of Christ? How does this challenge you today?
- 6) **Application:** How is God speaking to you through these verses and through this message? What specific action step is God asking you to take in light of this teaching?
- 7) Read John 6:66-69. How does this encourage or challenge you? What step do you need to take?
- 8) What principles do you need to pass on to others this week?



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