

# Bible Study Discussion Guide

Series: Fully Devoted — Week 1

Primary Text: Luke 14:25–33

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## Sermon Summary

In **Luke 14:25–33**, Jesus calls the crowds to wholehearted discipleship. He demands supreme allegiance—so singular that every other love appears small by comparison (vv. 26–27). Discipleship entails *carrying the cross*—embracing shame and suffering for His name—and soberly *counting the cost* like a builder or a king who calculates before acting (vv. 28–32). He states the cost plainly: a disciple must surrender everything (v. 33). Practically, this touches loyalty to family and self, willingness to endure misunderstanding and opposition, and readiness to sacrifice comfort, reputation, resources, and plans for Christ. Jesus is not recruiting spectators; He seeks followers who are all in because He alone is worthy and His way is better.

## Key Scriptures

- Luke 14:25–33 — Jesus' call to allegiance, cross-bearing, and counting the cost
- Exodus 20:12 — Honor your father and mother (held in tension with Luke 14:26's comparison language)
- Matthew 13:20–21 — Rocky soil receives with joy, but withers when trouble or persecution comes
- John 6:26, 60, 66 — After hard sayings, many turned back and no longer followed Him
- Genesis 12:1 — Abram called to go to the land God would show him (obedience before full clarity)

## Key Takeaways

- 1 **Fully Devoted Demands Allegiance:** Jesus must outrank family and self—our loyalty to Him comes first (**Luke 14:26**).
- 2 **Fully Devoted Involves Suffering:** Carrying the cross includes shame, misunderstanding, spiritual opposition, and losses borne for His name (**Luke 14:27; Matthew 13:20–21**).
- 3 **Fully Devoted Requires Sacrifice:** Disciples lay everything on the table—offering a 'blank check' to Jesus (**Luke 14:33; Genesis 12:1**).
- 4 **Count the Cost:** Like a builder or king, disciples calculate what obedience entails and then follow through (**Luke 14:28–32**).
- 5 **Jesus Is Worthy; His Way Is Better:** We give allegiance and endure loss because Christ alone satisfies and gives life (**John 6:26, 60, 66**).

## Discussion Questions

- 1 Where have you recently felt the tension between loyalty to Jesus and loyalty to family, friends, or self (**Luke 14:26**)? What did you do?
- 2 What might 'carrying your cross' look like in this season (**Luke 14:27**)? Consider misunderstanding, ridicule, spiritual resistance, or costly obedience.
- 3 Where do you need to 'count the cost' before acting (**Luke 14:28–32**)? What does faithful follow through require this week?
- 4 What specific sacrifice might Jesus be inviting you to make (**Luke 14:33**)? How can your group pray with you and support you?
- 5 When have you learned that Jesus' way is better than the comfortable alternative (**John 6:60, 66**)? What did it teach you about His worth?

## Personal Reflection

- Write a 'blank check' prayer to Jesus. Name the area(s) you're placing fully at His disposal (**Luke 14:33**).
- List two concrete costs you anticipate bearing for obedience this month and one support you will seek (**Matthew 13:20–21**).

## Closing Prayer

Lord Jesus, You are worthy of my full allegiance. Strengthen me to carry my cross with joy, to count the cost with wisdom, and to sacrifice gladly for Your name. Shape my loves so that You are first in everything, and help our group stand together in obedience. Amen.

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