



My Decision – My priorities for following Christ – Luke 14:26-33

Review

- A. The Foundation of Being a Disciple – a relationship with God
- B. Before we can even consider being a disciple of Jesus and follow Him, we must first know Him.

1. Introduction

- What is one hobby you enjoy doing?
- Results of Following Christ: we become part of a community – Ephesians 2:19

2. What are the costs of following Christ?

- “Hating” others – v. 26 – Who is our priority?
 - * “hate” – in context is a comparative statement
 - * How can family/friends/someone you are dating hinder you from following Christ?
- Bearing my own cross – v. 27
 - * To the audience that Jesus was teaching, this statement would have been both shocking and offensive.
 - * Only a person who for the sake of His service surrenders all self-seeking and abandons all striving after his own interests can be His disciple.
 - * What goals and desires do we personally have that can hinder us from following Christ?
 - + Jeremiah 29:11
- Renouncing all that I have – v. 33
 - * “Renounce” = to separate from oneself, to bid farewell – This is NOT a vow of poverty!
 - + The “American Dream” – the ideal by which equality of opportunity is available to any American, allowing the highest aspirations and goals to be achieved
 - + Materialism – a teaching that the only or the highest values or objectives lie in material well-being and in the furtherance of material progress – the more we get, the better off we are
 - + How can these concepts hinder us from following Christ?

3. The Challenge:

- Count the cost – who or what is a higher priority than following Jesus?
- Evaluate your life this week and look for those things that are hindering you from following Christ. What will you do about it?