

The Cost of Following Jesus

Scripture: Luke 9:57–62

Big Idea: Everyone wants to be a leader, but no one wants to follow.

Introduction

- Culture equates leadership with power, comfort, and visibility.
- Jesus reframes leadership by calling us first to **follow**.

True, godly leadership is formed through faithful following.

Point One: The First Man — Comfort

Text: Luke 9:57–58

Key Truth: Following Jesus means embracing hardship; comfort is not guaranteed.

- Jesus had no permanent place to rest.
- Following Him may mean leaving security and certainty.
- Faith rooted in comfort will crumble when hardship comes.

Reflection: Am I following Jesus for what He gives, or for who He is?

Point Two: The Second Man — Priority

Text: Luke 9:59–60

Key Truth: When we worship people over Christ, we risk spiritual death.

- Delayed obedience is still disobedience.
- Even good things (family, responsibility) must not replace Christ.
- Loving Christ first orders every other relationship rightly.

Reflection: What am I placing before Christ right now?

Point Three: The Third Man — Focus

Text: Luke 9:61–62

Key Truth: Distractions don't just slow us down—they steer us away from God's will.

- Looking back prevents moving forward.
- A distracted heart leads to a divided life.
- Faithfulness requires focus.

Reflection: What distractions are pulling my attention from Jesus?

Our Response

- To lead faithfully, we must follow fully.
- To follow Christ means not looking back.

Declaration (Read Together)

We choose to follow Jesus, even when it is hard and comfort is not guaranteed.

We will worship Christ above all people, knowing that nothing else can save our souls.

We will resist distractions that pull us from God's will, keeping our hearts fixed on Him.

Today, we commit to following Christ with our whole lives.

Closing Thought: Following Jesus may cost us comfort—but it leads to true life.