



The Cost of Discipleship - Week 2

Philippians 2:1-8 | June 13, 2021

Sermon Summary:

Jesus calls his disciples to deny themselves, take up their crosses and follow him daily. He bids his disciples to walk with him and walk with God. He directs his disciples to reach the lost around and to make disciples. First Gulfport is amplifying hope across the world by connecting people to life in Jesus through multiplication by making disciples who are making disciples. Are you a disciple of the Jesus? Are you making disciples? Have you counted the cost?

Diving Into the Message:

1 So if there is any encouragement in Christ, any comfort from love, any participation in the Spirit, any affection and sympathy, 2 complete my joy by being of the same mind, having the same love, being in full accord and of one mind. 3 Do nothing from selfish ambition or conceit, but in humility count others more significant than yourselves. 4 Let each of you look not only to his own interests, but also to the interests of others. 5 Have this mind among yourselves, which is yours in Christ Jesus, 6 who, though he was in the form of God, did not count equality with God a thing to be grasped, 7 but emptied himself, by taking the form of a servant, being born in the likeness of men. 8 And being found in human form, he humbled himself by becoming obedient to the point of death, even death on a cross.

Philippians 2:1-8 ESV

The hidden cost of our faith is that everything doesn't get to be about us anymore. Being like Jesus means giving up our comfort and security so we can widen the circle to include more people. Following Jesus means we don't get the last word anymore; we defer to others instead. Bob Goff, *Live in Grace, Walk in Love*, p. 201

But woe to you, scribes and Pharisees, hypocrites! For you shut the kingdom of heaven in people's faces. For you neither enter yourselves nor allow those who would enter to go in.

Matthew 23:13 ESV

Woe to you, scribes and Pharisees, hypocrites! For you travel across sea and land to make a single proselyte, and when he becomes a proselyte, you make him twice as much a child of hell as yourselves.

Matthew 23:15 ESV

The life of a disciple who is maturing in the faith is not his own. He can no longer do as he pleases, go where he pleases, spend his money as he pleases, or act the way he pleases. Christ is becoming Lord of his life and there are certain demands made on his time and energy.

A disciple is called on to share his faith with others, give his money to further the world mission of Christ and be available to the Spirit of God to overflow his life with good works.

Leroy Eims, *What Every Christian Should Know About Growing*, p. 88.

God didn't save you to simply live a life that is safe, predictable and cautious. He saved you to leave a legacy of faith - passed down from one person to another - that will change generations long after you are gone.

Craig Etheredge, *Reach Your World*, p. 2

Jesus said he came to seek and to save the lost. **(Luke 19:10)**

Jesus said he came to serve. **(Mark 10:45)**

Jesus said, "If anyone would come after me, let him deny himself and take up his cross daily and follow me. For whoever would save his life will lose it, but whoever loses his life for my sake will save it." **Luke 9:23-24**

In Matthew 28:19-20...

We are called to GO and MAKE DISCIPLES - of ALL NATIONS, Baptizing them in the name of the Father, and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit -

NOW We Must GO and MAKE DISCIPLES of ALL NATIONS and TEACH these NEW DISCIPLES to OBEY ALL the COMMANDS Jesus gave us! **Matthew 28:19-20**

Jesus said the harvest is plentiful but the laborers are few. He said for us to pray to the Lord of the harvest to send forth laborers into the harvest fields. **Luke 10:2**

- The time for every believer to be discipled and to become a disciple-maker is NOW!
- The time for you to see the salvation you have received is available to others through your witness is NOW!
- There has been no time in our lives when the harvest was more plentiful in the fields than they are NOW!

Even though we have some standing as Christians, we never throw our weight around or try to come across as important, with you or anyone else. We aren't standoffish with you. We take you just as you are. We are never patronizing, never condescending, but we care for you the way a mother cares for her children. We love you dearly. Not content to just pass on the Message, we give you our hearts. Yes we *do*!

1 Thessalonians 2:6-8 MSG

Life Application Questions

1. How much does it cost to get a doctorate in pharmacy? Medicine? PhD in engineering?
2. How much does it cost to be a disciple?
3. What does it cost to follow Jesus and live in daily obedience to him?
4. Where are your mission fields? Where you live. Where you play. Where you work. Where you eat/shop. Where you learn. Where you serve.
5. Who lives in your mission fields? Describe them. Name some of them.
6. What is the best way you have discovered to show those in your mission fields that you love them? Have you been given opportunity to share your faith with those living in your mission fields? What does that cost? What are the rewards?
7. Are you praying for those who live on your mission fields? Why not start now?

Announcements:

