



## The Cost of Discipleship

Dr. Jimmy Stewart | June 6, 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:

#### *The Cost of Discipleship*

*Luke 14:25-33*

26 "If anyone comes to me and does not hate his own father and mother and wife and children and brothers and sisters, yes, and even his own life, he cannot be my disciple. 27 Whoever does not bear his own cross and come after me cannot be my disciple. 28 For which of you, desiring to build a tower, does not first sit down and count the cost, whether he has enough to complete it? 29 Otherwise, when he has laid a foundation and is not able to finish, all who see it begin to mock him, 30 saying, 'This man began to build and was not able to finish.' 31 Or what king, going out to encounter another king in war, will not sit down first and deliberate whether he is able with ten thousand to meet him who comes against him with twenty thousand? 32 And if not, while the other is yet a great way off, he sends a delegation and asks for terms of peace. 33 So therefore, any one of you who does not renounce all that he has cannot be my disciple.

Luke 14:25-33

The Church in North America is declining both in attendance and influence. What can be done to change the direction?

Connecting to Life in Jesus will cost you everything!

*"Costly grace is the treasure hidden in the field; for the sake of it a man will go and sell all that he has. It is the pearl of great price to buy which the merchant will sell all his goods."*

Dietrich Bonhoeffer, The Cost of Discipleship

You can Walk With God Daily.

### **1. Connect to Life in Jesus Above Everyone Else!**

If anyone comes to me and does not hate his own father and mother and wife and children and brothers and sisters, yes, and even his own life, he cannot be my disciple. Luke 14:26

To connect to life in Jesus, who do you put above Jesus? NO ONE

### **2. Connect to Life in Jesus Every Moment of Everyday!**

Whoever does not bear his own cross and come after me cannot be my disciple. Luke 14:27

As you connect to life in Jesus, when can you put down your cross? NEVER

And he said to all, "If anyone would come after me, let him deny himself and take up his cross daily and follow me. 24 For whoever would save his life will lose it, but whoever loses his life for my sake will save it. 25 For what does it profit a man if he gains the whole world and loses or forfeits himself? 26 For whoever is ashamed of me and of my words, of him will the Son of Man be ashamed when he comes in his glory and the glory of the Father and of the holy angels. Luke 9:23-26

*"When Christ calls a man, he bids him come and die."*

Dietrich Bonhoeffer, The Cost of Discipleship

### **3. Connect to Life in Jesus with a Vision for Reaching Your World and Making Disciples Above Everything Else!**

So therefore, any one of you who does not renounce all that he has cannot be my disciple. Luke 14:33

When should you put anything ahead of the mission of disciple-making? NEVER

Connecting to life in Jesus will cost you everything!

*Walk with God*

Connecting others to Life in Jesus will cost you something!

*Reach Your World*

Connecting others to a life of disciple-making is priceless and pays dividends forever!

*Invest in a Few*

## Life Application Questions

1. Define a disciple of Jesus.
2. Are you, by your own definition, a disciple of Jesus?
3. Have you been discipled?
4. Define a process to make a disciple.
5. Are you, by your own process, making disciples?
6. Why is disciple-making critical to growth and spiritual health?
7. What next step do you need to take to be a disciple of Jesus? To make a disciple of Jesus?

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