



HIGHER LEVEL
WORSHIP

How Much Does it Cost?

Speaker: Pastor Tyrone King



DAY 1: THE CALL TO FOLLOW

Scripture Reading: Luke 14:25-27 -- Jesus speaks plainly about the demands of discipleship, calling followers to place loyalty to him above every other relationship and to take up their own cross daily.

Devotional: Following Jesus begins with a decision, not a feeling. The crowd surrounding Jesus was drawn by miracles and excitement, but Jesus wanted disciples, not spectators. There is a difference between admiring Jesus and following Jesus. Admiration costs nothing. Discipleship costs everything. Today, examine whether you are following Jesus or simply enjoying the benefits of being near him. True discipleship means placing him above your comfort, your relationships, and your own desires. Ask yourself honestly: Is Jesus on the throne of your life, or is he simply a guest you invite when it is convenient?

Reflection:

In what area of your life have you been admiring Jesus from a distance rather than fully following him?

Practical Application:

Identify one relationship, habit, or comfort that has been competing with your devotion to Christ. Surrender it to him in prayer today.



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DAY 2: THE WRESTLING OF THE FLESH

Scripture Reading: Romans 7:15-25 -- Paul describes the inner conflict between his desire to do good and the sinful nature that pulls him in the opposite direction, ultimately crying out for deliverance through Jesus Christ.

Devotional: Every honest believer knows Paul's struggle. We want to do right, yet we find ourselves doing what we hate. This is not a sign that you are beyond saving. It is a sign that you are human. The beauty of the gospel is that Jesus has already become our deliverer. He has paid the cost so that sin cannot permanently bind you. When you fall, repentance restores you to your rightful place. Do not let your failures convince you that following Jesus is impossible. Let them drive you deeper into dependence on the one who has already conquered sin on your behalf.

Reflection:

Where are you relying on your own strength rather than surrendering to Christ's delivering power?

Practical Application:

Write down one recurring struggle you have been fighting alone. Bring it before God in specific, honest prayer and ask for his delivering grace.



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DAY 3: COUNTING THE COST BEFORE YOU BUILD

Scripture Reading: Luke 14:28-30 -- Jesus uses the illustration of a builder who must first sit down and calculate whether he has enough resources to complete what he has started, warning against beginning without the intention to finish.

Devotional: Jesus never hid the price of discipleship. He laid it plainly before the crowd: count the cost before you commit. Many people begin their walk with Christ full of excitement, but when difficulty arrives, they quit. Discipleship is not built on emotions alone. Your faithfulness must outlast your feelings. Your obedience must outlast your enthusiasm. God is not looking for people who start well. He is looking for people who finish. Like a builder who calculates every expense before laying a foundation, commit today to following Jesus not just in the moments of blessing, but through every season of hardship.

Reflection:

Have you made commitments to God that you have allowed difficulty to interrupt? What would it look like to recommit to finishing well?

Practical Application:

Revisit a spiritual commitment you have allowed to grow cold, whether in prayer, service, or obedience. Take one concrete step today to rekindle it.



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DAY 4: WHO OWNS YOUR LIFE

Scripture Reading: Matthew 16:24-26 -- Jesus calls his followers to deny themselves, take up their cross, and follow him, asking what profit it is for a person to gain the whole world yet lose their own soul.

Devotional: There is a profound difference between having possessions and your possessions having you. Jesus is not opposed to blessing. He is opposed to anything that replaces him as Lord. Your career, your reputation, your relationships, and your dreams are not wrong in themselves. But when any of them occupy the throne that belongs to Christ alone, they become a barrier between you and the life God intends for you. The young rich man in Mark 10 walked away from Jesus because he could not surrender the one thing that held him back. Do not let that be your story. When Jesus is Lord, everything else falls into its proper place.

Reflection:

What is the one thing in your life that, if God asked you to surrender it, you would struggle the most to release?

Practical Application:

Hold that thing loosely today. In prayer, symbolically place it in God's hands and declare that he is Lord over it.



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DAY 5: SALT, PURPOSE, AND FINISHING THE RACE

Scripture Reading: 2 Timothy 4:7 and Luke 14:34-35 -- Paul declares that he has fought a good fight, finished the race, and kept the faith. Jesus warns that salt which has lost its saltiness is no longer useful for its intended purpose.

Devotional: God did not save you to sit in a pew. He saved you to reflect Jesus in every corner of your life, your home, your workplace, your community, and your relationships. Salt that has lost its saltiness cannot fulfill its purpose. In the same way, a believer who has lost their passion for Christ, their willingness to witness, their commitment to holiness, can no longer fully influence the world around them. Paul's goal was not simply to start the race. It was to finish it. Run on. Do not grow weary. The cost of following Jesus, though real, does not compare to the reward that awaits those who endure to the end.

Reflection:

Does your daily life point others toward Jesus? Where has your saltiness grown dim, and what would it take to restore it?

Practical Application:

Share your testimony, however briefly, with one person this week. Let your story of what God has done become a witness that points someone else toward Christ.