

I. Intro

- A. Series Overview
- B. Context
- C. Text: **Lk. 14:25-33**

²⁵ Now great multitudes went with Him. And He turned and said to them, ²⁶ “If anyone comes to Me and does not hate his father and mother, wife and children, brothers and sisters, yes, and his own life also, he cannot be My disciple. ²⁷ And whoever does not bear his cross and come after Me cannot be My disciple. ²⁸ For which of you, intending to build a tower, does not sit down first and count the cost, whether he has enough to finish it— ²⁹ lest, after he has laid the 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 to make war against another king, does not sit down first and consider whether he is able with ten thousand to meet him who comes against him with twenty thousand? ³² Or else, while the other is still a great way off, he sends a delegation and asks conditions of peace. ³³ So likewise, whoever of you does not forsake all that he has cannot be My disciple. (Lk. 14:25-33)

- 1. Preview
 - a. The Call To Wholehearted Love (v. 26)
 - b. The Call To Accountability (v. 27-32)
 - c. The Call To Radical Abandonment (v. 33)

II. Body

A. The Call To Radical Abandonment

³³ So likewise, whoever of you does not forsake all that he has cannot be My disciple. (Lk. 14:33)

- 1. God has always called folks who will drop everything (in pursuit of Him).
 - a. Peter, Andrew, James & John (**Matt. 4:18-22**)

¹⁸ And Jesus, walking by the Sea of Galilee, saw two brothers, Simon called Peter, and Andrew his brother, casting a net into the sea; for they were fishermen.

¹⁹ Then He said to them, “Follow Me, and I will make you fishers of men.” ²⁰ They immediately left their nets and followed Him. ²¹ Going on from there, He saw two other brothers, James the son of Zebedee, and John his brother, in the boat with Zebedee their father, mending their nets. He called them, ²² and immediately they left the boat and their father, and followed Him. (**Matt. 4:18-22**)

b. Abraham (**Gen. 12:1**)

¹ Now the *LORD* had said to Abram: “Get out of your country, from your family and from your father’s house, to a land that I will show you. (**Gen. 12:1**)

2. Indictment Against Our Lightweight Evangelism Model

- a. Intellectual type of believing without surrendering everything
- b. Jesus is not just looking for those who “kinda believe “that He is real.
- c. Unless you forsake it all, you cannot be His disciple!

3. Jesus’ demand for radical abandonment is the reasonable expectation of any serious husband.

- a. Ex.: Adam

²³ And Adam said: “This is now bone of my bones and flesh of my flesh; She shall be called Woman, because she was taken out of Man.” ²⁴ Therefore a man shall leave his father and mother and be joined to his wife, and they shall become one flesh. (**Gen. 2:23-24**)

- b. Jesus is more than a reasonable husband.

- i. He is the jealous Bridegroom whose fiery gaze burns brighter than a billion suns.

4. Abandonment of all involves urgency.

B. The Call To Take Accountability

²⁷ And whoever does not bear his cross and come after Me cannot be My disciple. (Lk. 14:27)

1. Bearing the Cross clearly means that something and/or someone has to die. (v. 27)
 - a. 2 Cor. 5:17: ¹⁷ Therefore, if anyone is in Christ, he is a new creation; old things have passed away; behold, all things have become new.
 - b. Col. 3:3: For you died, and your life is hidden with Christ in God.
 - c. Bearing the Cross = Love of self must die!
2. Are you willing to die?

²⁸ For which of you, intending to build a tower, does not sit down first and count the cost, whether he has enough to finish it— ²⁹ lest, after he has laid the 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 to make war against another king, does not sit down first and consider whether he is able with ten thousand to meet him who comes against him with twenty thousand? ³² Or else, while the other is still a great way off, he sends a delegation and asks conditions of peace. (Lk. 14:28-32)

- a. Count it up and make a bold choice.
 - i. Lk. 9:24: For whoever desires to save his life will lose it, but whoever loses his life for My sake will save it.

C. The Call To Love Whole Heartedly

²⁶ “If anyone comes to Me and does not hate his father and mother, wife and children, brothers and sisters, yes, and his own life also, he cannot be My disciple. (Lk. 14:26)

1. Hate Was Used as a Hyperbole.

Hyperbole: extravagant overstatement meant to catch the listener’s attention and convey a stunning truth.

- a. Secular Examples

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- i. *"I've driven up to Northern California a million times."*
 - ii. *"Derane had a ton of groceries stacked in the back of his car."*
 - b. Biblical Example
 - i. *"Give me children, lest I die!"*

2. Hate Was Used to Emphasize Uncompromised Priority

²⁶ *"If anyone comes to Me and does not hate his father and mother, wife and children, brothers and sisters, yes, and his own life also, he cannot be My disciple. (Lk. 14:26)*

- a. Love God with everything.

³⁶ *"Teacher, which is the great commandment in the law?"* ³⁷ Jesus said to him, *"You shall love the LORD your God with all your heart, with all your soul, and with all your mind.'* ³⁸ *This is the first and great commandment. (Matt. 22:36-38)*

- b. The 2nd Commandment is the overflow of the first.

III. Conc.:

A. The Call To Love Wholeheartedly

²⁶ *"If anyone comes to Me and does not hate his father and mother, wife and children, brothers and sisters, yes, and his own life also, he cannot be My disciple. (Lk. 14:26)*

- 1. The distance between loving God and any other (2nd things) is so vast that the difference can only be described in a hyperbolic way as hate.

B. The Call To Accountability

²⁷ *And whoever does not bear his cross and come after Me cannot be My disciple.* ²⁸ *For which of you, intending to build a tower, does not sit down first and count the cost, whether he has enough to finish it. (Lk. 14:27-28)*

- 1. This is going to cost you

C. The Call To Radical Abandonment

³³ *So likewise, whoever of you does not forsake all that he has cannot be My disciple. (Lk. 14:33)*

1. The call to forsake all is the call to discipleship.
2. The call to forsake all is also the standard for intimate union with God.
 - a. Warning: We can't meet that standard by our own strength and effort.
 - i. We need help.
 - ii. The Father gives us the grace to do it.
 - b. Jesus is such an effective leader, that He leads us into the place of radical abandonment of lesser things.
 - i. He won't stop until He has all of us.