

Clinging That Costs

Jesus for Everyone Message Series Week 25

Luke 18:9-30

Pastor Jeff Burkholder

April 3, 2022

If you want to come to Jesus and follow Him, it will involve:

1. **Humility: a recognition that you are a sinner who is not worthy of God.** (Luke 18:9-14)

“The self-righteous Pharisee goes home deceived believing himself justified, yet unrighteous and unknowing. It is a terrible thing to think you are right before God when you are not. It is foolish to try basing your righteousness with God on the things you do. Our goodness falls far too short. But it is wonderful to be a sinner, head bowed, pleading for mercy, and being rewarded with that mercy through faith in Jesus Christ.”

Thabiti Anyabwile, *Christ-Centered Exposition: Exalting Jesus in Luke*, B&H Publishing Group, Nashville, TN, 2018, p. 267.

“We don’t quit with our heads hung low; our God lifts our heads and gives light to our eyes. Let us be constant in going to him when we see our sin. The smallest glimpse of our sin may humble us like the tax collector, and we may feel far off. Let us not linger far off. Close the distance with God by going to the Father through the sacrifice of Christ. Let us go confidently because God rewards those who seek him, even sinners needing mercy.”

Thabiti Anyabwile, *Christ-Centered Exposition: Exalting Jesus in Luke*, B&H Publishing Group, Nashville, TN, 2018, p. 268.

2. Helpless dependence: a recognition that you don't have what it takes. (Luke 18:15-17)

“This constant looking up to Mom and Dad in dependence, trust, hope, and humility is what God calls us to as we look to him as our Father. God promises to give an infinite, unshakeable kingdom to those who seek him that way.”

Thabiti Anyabwile, *Christ-Centered Exposition: Exalting Jesus in Luke*, B&H Publishing Group, Nashville, TN, 2018, p. 269.

“We must not think a child cannot come to God until he is like a man, but a man cannot come until he is like a child. We must grow down until we become like a child.”

R. Kent Hughes, *Luke*, Crossway, Wheaton, IL, 2015, p. 636.

3. Total surrender: a willingness to give up everything. (Luke 18:18-30)

“Christ will certainly make demands on our lives. He will demand our entire lives. He will rearrange our lives. He will remove us from relationships and circumstances that we love but that are not pleasing to him. He will cause us to make stands, even against our loved ones, where he is concerned. He will call us to make stands that may cost us greatly.”

Thabiti Anyabwile, *Christ-Centered Exposition: Exalting Jesus in Luke*, B&H Publishing Group, Nashville, TN, 2018, p. 271.