



Counting the Cost!

TSOP BIBLE STUDY

JANUARY 15, 2020

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Luke 14:26-33

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*—

Luke 14:26-33

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.

God offers the greatest gift

John 3:16 New King James Version (NKJV)

¹⁶ For God so loved the world that He gave His only begotten Son, that whoever believes in Him should not perish but have everlasting life.

The asking transfers ownership

Luke 9:23 New King James Version (NKJV)

²³ Then He said to *them* all, “If anyone desires to come after Me, let him deny himself, and take up his cross [a]daily, and follow Me.

Galatians 5:24 New King James Version (NKJV)

²⁴ And those *who are* Christ’s have crucified the flesh with its passions and desires.

What does counting the cost mean?

Matthew 7:13-14 New King James Version (NKJV)

13 “Enter by the narrow gate; for wide *is* the gate and broad *is* the way that leads to destruction, and there are many who go in by it. **14** ^[a]Because narrow *is* the gate and ^[b]difficult *is* the way which leads to life, and there are few who find it.

What does counting the cost mean?

recognizing and agreeing to some terms first
we cannot simply follow our own inclinations.

We cannot follow Him and the world's way at the same
time

Following Him may mean we lose relationships,
dreams, material things, or even our lives.

Counting the cost

Those who are following Jesus simply for what they can get won't stick around when the going gets tough.

When God's way conflicts with our way, we will feel betrayed by the shallow, me-first faith we have bought into.

If we have not counted the cost of being His child, we will turn away at the threat of sacrifice and find something else to gratify our selfish desires

Counting the cost

Mark 4:5 New King James Version (NKJV)

⁵ Some fell on stony ground, where it did not have much earth; and immediately it sprang up because it had no depth of earth.

Counting the cost

Mark 4:16-17 New King James Version (NKJV)

16 These likewise are the ones sown on stony ground who, when they hear the word, immediately receive it with gladness; **17** and they have no root in themselves, and so endure only for a time. Afterward, when tribulation or persecution arises for the word's sake, immediately they stumble.

Counting the cost

In Jesus' earthly ministry, there came a time when the free food stopped and public opinion turned ugly.

The cheering crowds became jeering crowds. And Jesus knew ahead of time that would happen.

Jesus ends his description of discipleship

Luke 14:33 New King James Version (NKJV)

³³ So likewise, whoever of you does not forsake all that he has cannot be My disciple.

Counting the cost

Renouncing may mean we give up something physically, but more often it means we let go emotionally so that what we possess no longer possesses us. When we become one of His, we cannot continue to belong to this world

Counting the cost

1 John 2:15-17 New King James Version (NKJV)

15 Do not love the world or the things in the world. If anyone loves the world, the love of the Father is not in him. **16** For all that *is* in the world—the lust of the flesh, the lust of the eyes, and the pride of life—is not of the Father but is of the world. **17** And the world is passing away, and the lust of it; but he who does the will of God abides forever.

We cannot earn salvation by lifestyle change or any other good deed

Ephesians 2:8-9 New King James Version (NKJV)

⁸ For by grace you have been saved through faith, and that not of yourselves; *it is* the gift of God, ⁹ not of works, lest anyone should boast.

Choosing to follow Christ

When we choose to follow Christ, we are releasing control of our lives. When Jesus is in control, pure living results.

1 John 3:4-10 New King James Version (NKJV)

⁴ Whoever commits sin also commits lawlessness, and sin is lawlessness. ⁵ And you know that He was manifested to take away our sins, and in Him there is no sin. ⁶ Whoever abides in Him does not sin. Whoever sins has neither seen Him nor known Him. ⁷ Little children, let no one deceive you. He who practices righteousness is righteous, just as He is righteous.

Choosing to follow Christ

⁸ He who sins is of the devil, for the devil has sinned from the beginning. For this purpose the Son of God was manifested, that He might destroy the works of the devil. ⁹ Whoever has been born of God does not sin, for His seed remains in him; and he cannot sin, because he has been born of God.

¹⁰ In this the children of God and the children of the devil are manifest: Whoever does not practice righteousness is not of God, nor *is* he who does not love his brother.

Choosing to follow Christ

2 Corinthians 5:17 New King James Version (NKJV)

17 Therefore, if anyone *is* in Christ, *he is* a new creation; old things have passed away; behold, all things have become new.