



Cost of Discipleship

Sunday, August 16, 2020



TALK
ABOUT IT

- What, if God asked you to do it, would you struggle to follow? This could be everything from, be celibate, quit your job, be a missionary, etc. What prompting of Jesus would you hesitate in following?



PRAYER

Jesus ends His most famous sermon with a call to not only be hearers of His teaching, but doers. Read these words and then pray, asking God to help you live out the teachings you are about to hear.

Matthew 7:24-27

“24 “Everyone then who hears these words of mine and does them will be like a wise man who built his house on the rock. 25 And the rain fell, and the floods came, and the winds blew and beat on that house, but it did not fall, because it had been founded on the rock. 26 And everyone who hears these words of mine and does not do them will be like a foolish man who built his house on the sand. 27 And the rain fell, and the floods came, and the winds blew and beat against that house, and it fell, and great was the fall of it.”

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SERMON + WORSHIP

Watch this week's Sermon and Worship Set
(reminder, it's easiest to watch it from the YouTube playlist)



TALK ABOUT IT

- **Pastor Nate began our time in Luke 9:23-27 and talked about the high cost of following Jesus that He is trying to convey to His disciples.**
 - In what ways do we try to “save our life”? What does it look like to “lose your life” for Jesus’ sake?
- **Pastor Nate then moved into Luke 9:57-62, where Jesus calls three disciples, and then reacts to each of their hesitations. Pastor Nate said the big idea is that Jesus is telling His disciples that they need to prioritize Him over everything else**
 - Which situation seems most harsh for Jesus to have responded to the person? (“no home,” “no burying the dead,” and “no looking back”)
 - What parts of our life can be put at odds with prioritizing Jesus? Give examples.
- **Finally, we read through Luke 14:25-33. Pastor Nate summarized it this way, that we’re called to love everything else less than we love Jesus. He demands total allegiance.**
 - What are some things in your life that compete for the top spot of your love or affections in your life?

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- **The cost of following Jesus, as expressed by Jesus in His teaching, is total allegiance, total investment, with everything else at the most coming in second to Him.**
 - If you have put your faith in Jesus but have never taken the call to be a disciple, a learner and follower of Jesus, seriously, take time this week to consider the cost and decide what kind of follower you will be. All in or only partially? Tell someone close to you.
- **If you have never put your faith in Jesus but are feeling called to follow Him, ask a fellow believer to pray with you and invite Jesus into your life to be Lord.**
 - Read Romans 10:9-13:
“9 because, if you confess with your mouth that Jesus is Lord and believe in your heart that God raised him from the dead, you will be saved. 10 For with the heart one believes and is justified, and with the mouth one confesses and is saved. 11 For the Scripture says, “Everyone who believes in him will not be put to shame.” 12 For there is no distinction between Jew and Greek; for the same Lord is Lord of all, bestowing his riches on all who call on him. 13 For “everyone who calls on the name of the Lord will be saved.”
 - Congratulations! If you have placed your faith and trust in Jesus for the first time, you’ve started your new life in Jesus, a life that places Him at the center as you begin to follow Him.
- **For those who have been a disciple of Jesus for a while, take time this week to reassess if following Jesus lands as the top priority in your life? Is it simply a priority? Or is it the center of your life?**

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Want additional content to dive into during the week? Try this:

These prompts can be used one-per-day or for an extended time on your own, with your spouse or family members, or with your small group:

- **Pastor Nate talked about how as disciples we can try and cling to our old life and simply see the Gospel as an eternal ticket into heaven. Read through these passages:**
 - Ephesians 4:17-32
 - *What is Paul saying is part of our old self? When we seek to keep our lives with ourselves as the center, what are we really fighting to keep? (v. 17-24)*
 - *What does Paul say a Jesus-centered, disciple begins to look like as we align more and more with the words and ways of Jesus? (v. 25-32)*
 - Romans 6:15-23
 - *When Paul says that we are a “slave to the one we obey” (i.e sin or righteousness), he is pointing out that we can choose who we serve -- so who do we serve?*
 - *What would the fruit of our life say we serve? Sin which leads to death? Or righteousness which leads to life?*
 - Philippians 3:12-21
 - *What encouragement can you find in hearing Paul admit that he hasn't attained the fullness of following Jesus, but continues to strain for it?*
 - *Paul also encourages the church in Philippi to watch him as an example, but then to watch others who are faithfully following Jesus. Who in your life can you be keeping your eyes on to follow their example as they follow Jesus?*