



FOLLOWING JESUS

MESSAGE NOTES & SMALL GROUP DISCUSSION GUIDE WEEK 3 – COUNTING THE COST

BIG IDEA

There _____ a _____ to following Jesus

²⁵Large crowds were traveling with Jesus, and turning to them He said: ²⁶“If anyone comes to Me and does not hate father and mother, wife and children, brothers and sisters—yes, even their own life—such a person cannot be My disciple. ²⁷And whoever does not carry their cross and follow Me cannot be My disciple.

²⁸“Suppose one of you wants to build a tower. Won’t you first sit down and estimate the cost to see if you have enough money to complete it? ²⁹For if you lay the foundation and are not able to finish it, everyone who sees it will ridicule you, ³⁰saying, ‘This person began to build and wasn’t able to finish.’

³¹“Or suppose a king is about to go to war against another king. Won’t he first sit down and consider whether he is able with ten thousand men to oppose the one coming against him with twenty thousand? ³²If he is not able, he will send a delegation while the other is still a long way off and will ask for terms of peace. ³³In the same way, those of you who do not give up everything you have cannot be My disciples.

— **Luke 14:25-33 NIV**

⁴⁴“The kingdom of heaven is like treasure hidden in a field. When a man found it, he hid it again, and then in his joy went and sold all he had and bought that field.

⁴⁵“Again, the kingdom of heaven is like a merchant looking for fine pearls. ⁴⁶When he found one of great value, he went away and sold everything he had and bought it.

— **Matthew 13:44-46 NIV**

OBSERVATIONS

- Following Jesus is a _____
- Following Jesus requires _____
- Following Jesus cultivates _____

ADDITIONAL NOTES

DIGGING DEEPER

1. What is meant by the phrase “cheap grace”?
2. How might “cheap grace” lead to an incorrect view of being a disciple of Jesus?
3. What does it mean to “count the cost” of being a disciple of Jesus? What are the examples that Jesus gave to the crowd of counting the cost?
4. How can salvation be free if discipleship is costly?
5. Why should we carefully consider following Jesus? How might this lead some people to reject the invitation to follow Jesus?
6. What did Jesus say was the cost of being His disciple?
7. What might Jesus require a disciple to give up in order to faithfully follow Him?
8. How can following Jesus cultivate joy and hope?
9. What does Jesus promise in Matthew 13:44-46 to those who are willing to give up everything to follow Him?
10. How can this lead a disciple to maintain their commitment to Jesus in the midst of great loss?
11. What is the most significant thing that someone you know has given up for their faith in Jesus?
12. What are some things you have lost because of your commitment to follow Jesus?
13. What are some things that you might struggle to give up for the sake of following Jesus?
14. How can we be praying for one another as we seek to become faithful disciples of Jesus?