**The Cost To Be A Disciple**

**Reading - Luke 14:25-35**

***(Luke 9:62) Jesus said… "No one, having put his hand to the plow, and looking back, is fit for the kingdom of God."***

**THE TOUGH TRUTH ABOUT THE COST OF DISCIPLESHIP.**

A. ***Luke 14:26‑27 "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. (NKJV)***

There are only three other statements in the New Testament where Jesus gives an identification of “My disciples.”

1. ***John 8:31 Then Jesus said to those Jews who believed Him, "If you abide in My word, you are My disciples indeed. (NKJV)***

2. ***John 13:35 "By this all will know that you are My disciples, if you have love for one another." (NKJV)***

3. ***John 15:8 "By this My Father is glorified, that you bear much fruit; so you will be My disciples. (NKJV)***

**What are we to “Hate”?**

Parents.

Siblings.

Spouse.

Children.

One’s own life. Are you willing to bear your own cross to follow Jesus?

Discipleship costs everything a person has. Are you willing to pay it? ***2 Corinthians 6:14‑18 Do not be unequally yoked together with unbelievers. For what fellowship has righteousness with lawlessness? And what communion has light with darkness? 15 And what accord has Christ with Belial? Or what part has a believer with an unbeliever? 16 And what agreement has the temple of God with idols? For you are the temple of the living God. As God has said: "I will dwell in them And walk among [them.] I will be their God, And they shall be My people." 17 Therefore "Come out from among them And be separate, says the Lord. Do not touch what is unclean, And I will receive you." 18 "I will be a Father to you, And you shall be My sons and daughters, Says the LORD Almighty." (NKJV)***

Part of the cost of discipleship involves our own crucifixion ***Galatians 2:20 "I have been crucified with Christ; it is no longer I who live, but Christ lives in me; and the [life] which I now live in the flesh I live by faith in the Son of God, who loved me and gave Himself for me. (NKJV)***

***Philippians 3:7-14 But what things were gain to me, these I have counted loss for Christ. 8 Yet indeed I also count all things loss for the excellence of the knowledge of Christ Jesus my Lord, for whom I have suffered the loss of all things, and count them as rubbish, that I may gain Christ 9 and be found in Him, not having my own righteousness, which [is] from the law, but that which [is] through faith in Christ, the righteousness which is from God by faith; 10 that I may know Him and the power of His resurrection, and the fellowship of His sufferings, being conformed to His death, 11 if, by any means, I may attain to the resurrection from the dead. 12 Not that I have already attained, or am already perfected; but I press on, that I may lay hold of that for which Christ Jesus has also laid hold of me. 13 Brethren, I do not count myself to have apprehended; but one thing [I do,] forgetting those things which are behind and reaching forward to those things which are ahead, 14 I press toward the goal for the prize of the upward call of God in Christ Jesus. (NKJV)***

***Romans 12:1‑2 I beseech you therefore, brethren, by the mercies of God, that you present your bodies a living sacrifice, holy, acceptable to God, [which is] your reasonable service. 2 And do not be conformed to this world, but be transformed by the renewing of your mind, that you may prove what [is] that good and acceptable and perfect will of God. (NKJV)***