**The Cost of Discipleship**

 **Luke 14:25-33**

**25**Large 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. **27**And 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? **29**For if you lay the foundation and are not able to finish it, everyone who sees it will ridicule you, **30**saying, ‘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? **32**If 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. **33**In the same way, those of you who do not give up everything you have cannot be my disciples. Luke 14:25-33

1. Discipleship comes with a \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_.
2. All the things that concern us Jesus seems to \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_compared to following Him.

 "I will follow you wherever you go," he says, "The foxes have holes and the birds of the air have nests, but the Son of Man has nowhere to lay His head." Luke 9:58

Jesus takes the initiative and calls another, "Follow me." The man responds, "Lord, permit me first to go and bury my father." To which Jesus replies in verse 60, "Allow the dead to bury their own dead; but as for you, go and proclaim everywhere the kingdom of God." Luke 9:59,60

"I will follow you, Lord; but first permit me to say good-bye to those at home." To this Jesus responds in verse 62, "No one, after putting his hand to the plow and looking back, is fit for the kingdom of God." Luke 9:61,62

1. The reward of following Him is \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ than anything else in this world.

“There is no cost that you can pay in following me that won’t be made up to you a thousandfold in the resurrection.”

“The kingdom of heaven is like treasure hidden in a field, which a man found and covered up. Then in his joy he goes and sells all that he has and buys that field.” Matthew 13:44

A man sees and sells everything he has — everything he has! — to get that treasure. In other words, all the so-called costs and all the so-called losses — *everything* — are nothing compared to the gains of having Jesus, the greatest treasure.

I count all things lost compared to the surpassing knowledge of knowing Christ. Philippians 3:8

 “There is no cost you can pay in following Jesus that won’t be made up a thousandfold in the resurrection.”

 **Discussion Questions**

1. What is following Jesus costing you right now?
2. List your concerns that conflict with following Jesus.
3. Share with the group a treasure, you have found in Jesus, that was greater than your pain or cost.