

THE PARABLES

The Cost of Being a Disciple

Luke 14:25-35

A Few Initial Thoughts

- ❑ Disciple: another word for a follower of Jesus Christ, a believer, a Christian. All of these are interchangeable.
- ❑ Jesus often uses hyperbole to make His point. He expects us to understand that and to get His main point. *Matthew 5:29-30, Luke 14:26 with Ephesians 5:22-6:4*
- ❑ Remember, we must start with the one main thought of each parable. Be careful not to make everything the main point.

The Context

- ❑ Jesus is challenging anyone who might want to follow Him. Becoming a Christian is not something to do lightly. There is a cost and you must be willing to pay it.
- ❑ Hating is not the real issue. The point is that you must love Jesus *more* than anyone or anything. *Matthew 10:34-39*

An Honest Approach

- ❑ Jesus does not hide the difficulties; He highlights them. *Luke 14:26-27, 33*
- ❑ Is this how we share the gospel? What are we afraid of?

The Parables

Building a Tower

- ❑ Is he telling you how to build a tower?
- ❑ The main point is that you figure out if you can complete the job *before* you start it.
- ❑ Can you afford to be a Christian? Are you willing to pay the price?

Going to War

- ❑ The main point is the same as the previous parable. That is why these are together here.
- ❑ If you cannot complete the job, you must find some other solution.
- ❑ You must think about being a disciple.

The Message

Both of these parables point to the same truth—can you complete the task? Are you willing to pay the cost? If you do not love Jesus more than anything else, you are not willing to pay the cost. You cannot be a disciple. A strong message, but shows that this must be a work of God for it to even happen!

So What?

- ❑ You must be willing to do whatever it takes to be a disciple.
- ❑ You must persevere to the end to be a disciple.
- ❑ Remember that disciples are only willing to do this because God has changed their hearts. It is not anything in them that makes them willing to do this on their own.
- ❑ Are you willing to be honest when you share the gospel?
- ❑ Are you a disciple?