



# Life Guide

applying God's Word to life

## Following Jesus on His Terms September 14<sup>th</sup>, 2019

Luke 14:25-33

<sup>25</sup> Large crowds were traveling with Jesus, and turning to them he said: <sup>26</sup> "If anyone comes to me and does not hate his father and mother, his wife and children, his brothers and sisters—yes, even his own life—he cannot be my disciple. <sup>27</sup> And anyone who does not carry his cross and follow me cannot be my disciple.

<sup>28</sup> "Suppose one of you wants to build a tower. Will he not first sit down and estimate the cost to see if he has enough money to complete it? <sup>29</sup> For if he lays the foundation and is not able to finish it, everyone who sees it will ridicule him, <sup>30</sup> saying, 'This fellow began to build and was not able to finish.'

<sup>31</sup> Or suppose a king is about to go to war against another king. Will he not first sit down and consider whether he is able with ten thousand men to oppose the one coming against him with twenty thousand? <sup>32</sup> 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. <sup>33</sup> In the same way, any of you who does not give up everything he has cannot be my disciple."

1. What is the best deal you've ever gotten on a purchase?  
—OR—  
What's the worst you've ever been ripped off?
2. Read through the passage and underline words which help you understand what it costs to be a disciple of Jesus.
3. Read Genesis 29:30-31. The term for Leah in v. 31 is translated into Greek with the same word as Jesus uses for "hating" your family. How does this passage help you understand what Jesus meant by "hate" your family?

4. It's unwise to re-define any words in the Bible that we don't like. We don't seek a new meaning for "hate" because it makes us uncomfortable. What Bible passages can you think of that prompt us to look for a different meaning for "hate" in this passage?
5. Complete these statements. (Both statements may have positive and negative answers.) One dead give-away that I'm loving my family more than Jesus is...  
When I love Jesus first and my family second then...
6. Disciples don't get to pick their own crosses; Jesus does. How do you see this in your own life?
7. The large crowds in v. 25 were not yet disciples of Jesus. What are some ways that "counting the cost" of discipleship is different for us who already follow Jesus?"
8. We can count the costs *and the benefits* of following Jesus. Make a list the top three ways following Jesus can benefit you.
9. If you were talking to someone in the crowd following Jesus, how would you explain to them the cost and the benefit of being a Christian? Make sure you include at least one analogy.
10. Say a short prayer asking for strength for your specific challenges and thanking him for his benefits.