

MESSAGE DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

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THE COST OF FOLLOWING JESUS

Pastor Andy Rauschkolb continued teaching from the book of Luke focusing on the cost of following Jesus. While salvation comes by mercy and grace, and is a priceless gift, following Jesus carries a cost. To align with Jesus' life and ministry, the cost will be great. It will cost you relationally as you put God first in your life. It will cost you, you, as you deny your own wants and desires and instead follow Jesus into the hard and uncomfortable parts of life. It will cost you ownership, when you understand that you own nothing, but manage everything the Lord has given you to steward. A great cost, but so worth it.

SCRIPTURES:

A large crowd was following Jesus. He turned around and said to them, "If you want to be my disciple, you must, by comparison, hate everyone else—your father and mother, wife and children, brothers and sisters—yes, even your own life. Otherwise, you cannot be my disciple. -Luke 14:25-26 NLT

And calling the crowd to him with his disciples, he said to them, "If anyone would come after me, let him deny himself and take up his cross and follow me. For whoever would save his life will lose it, but whoever loses his life for my sake and the gospel's will save it. -Mark 8:34-35 ESV

I have been crucified with Christ. It is no longer I who live, but Christ who lives in me. And the life I now live in the flesh I live by faith in the Son of God, who loved me and gave himself for me. -Galatians 2:20 ESV

Or do you not know that your body is a temple of the Holy Spirit within you, whom you have from God? You are not your own, for you were bought with a price. So glorify God in your body. -1 Corinthians 6:19-20 ESV

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? For if you lay the foundation and are not able to finish it, everyone who sees it will ridicule you, saying, 'This person began to build and wasn't able to finish.'

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? 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. In the same way, those of you who do not give up everything you have cannot be my disciples. -Luke 14:28-33 NIV

"Truly I tell you," Jesus replied, "no one who has left home or brothers or sisters or mother or father or children or fields for me and the gospel will fail to receive a hundred times as much in this present age: homes, brothers, sisters, mothers, children and fields—along with persecutions—and in the age to come eternal life. -Mark 10:29-30 NIV

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

1. What that stood out to you in Andy's message?
2. Read Luke 14:25-26, Mark 8:34-35, Galatians 2:20, and 1 Corinthians 6:19-20. What do you learn about the cost of following Jesus?
3. Read Luke 14:27-33. How would you describe the difference of owner and manager or steward?
4. What do these costs look like in one's life?
5. Have you considered the cost of following Jesus? What would change in your life?
6. What would change if you lived as a steward instead of an owner?
7. Read Mark 10:29-30. How does Jesus assure his followers that the cost is worth it?
8. How can we pray for you?

PRAYER

Praise God for the gift of salvation through Jesus. Ask him to examine your life and reveal areas you are prioritizing other relationships and selfish desires over him. Confess an attitude of "mine" instead of "mine to manage", and ask God to help you as you move from owner to manager in your own life.