

The Cost of Discipleship: *Definition of Discipleship* **Luke 14:25-35**

What does it mean to you to be a disciple of Christ? What does it mean to God? Is our definition of discipleship the same as God's? In Luke 14:25-35 Jesus lays out the conditions of being His disciple. He does not give us a bunch of rules, but He makes his standard very clear. He will not force anyone to follow Him or even obey Him. The conditions are strict, but the result is glorious.

God's Definition

- Follow Me First – Luke 14:25-26
 - o Luke 9:57-62 – No Excuses
- Continued Action – Luke 14:27
 - o Ephesians 2:8 – Emphasis is placed on continuing results
 - o Luke 9:23 – Take up your cross daily
- Total Surrender – Luke 14:33
 - o Matthew 19:16-22 – The Rich Young Man

Man's Definition

- Excuses First – Luke 14:16-24
 - o An excuse is liable to ruin everything.
- “I’ll sit this one out” – Philippians 3:12-14
- Partial Surrender – “If you say it enough, it becomes reality”
 - o God’s Word is the measure of reality and truth

The ultimate commitment is demanded of every disciple. Learning to follow the teachings of Jesus in complete obedience demands the total commitment.