



## COUNTING THE COST

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*Luke 14: 25-35*

Everyone on Mission, developing generations of world changers.

The cost of following Jesus is significant.

*If any one comes to me and does not hate his own father and mother and wife and children and brothers and sisters, yes, and even his own life, he cannot be my disciple. Luke 14:26*

I must put Jesus first.

A True Disciple...

- Lives a Life of Worship
- Lives by God's Word
- Is Empowered by the Holy Spirit
- Lives on Mission
- Loves God and Others
- Makes New Disciples
- Is Like Jesus Christ

*So whether you eat or drink or whatever you do, do it all for the glory of God. 1 Corinthians 10:31*

Global + Local = "Glocal" #ForFresno and #ForTheWorld

Missions is something we do. Missional Living is about who we are.

*Whoever wants to be my disciple must deny themselves and take up their cross daily and follow me. Luke 9:23*

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**Lesson Aim:** To grow in awareness of what it means to follow Jesus.

**Ice-breaker:** What is the best commercial or advertisement you have seen recently?

Open in prayer and ask the Holy Spirit to guide your time together.

1. Read our Mission Statement: *Everyone on Mission, developing generations of world changers.* What does it mean to be “On Mission”? What does it mean to be a “World Changer”?

2. **Read Luke 14:25-26** and **Matthew 10:37-38**. What is the common thread between these two scriptures? What do you think Jesus was actually saying about how our hearts and priorities should be?

3. When is a time in your life that you experienced your priorities being out of order? What were the results of that experience? How did you correct it? If you haven't yet, what is holding you back?

4. **Read Luke 14:28-30**. Everything in life has a cost of time, money, emotion, discipline etc. associated with it. What is the cost of following Jesus? Is it the same for everybody? Why?

5. When is a time that you started a project, went on a trip, changed jobs, etc. where you did not plan appropriately or count the cost? How was the experience? How did you correct the situation?

6. In **Matthew 28**, Jesus gave us the famous Great Commission known as “Go and make disciples...” What does this commission mean to you? What do you feel that you are called to do so as to be a part of this? Is there anything that is holding you back?

7. **Luke 9:23** says “Whoever wants to be my disciple must deny themselves and take up their cross daily and follow me.” What does it mean to “deny themselves”? What is the “cross” that Jesus is referring to? What are some characteristics of a true Disciple of Jesus?

8. During Missions Month, our goal is to teach that it isn't only about outreach to others, but to push ourselves toward greater intimacy with God. What is something that you can do to create that closer relationship with Jesus this month? What is something that you can do to help push or lead others towards Jesus?

**Daily Devotional Plan** – Promises from the Bible about putting God first.

Day 1 – Matthew 6:24

Day 2 – Colossians 3:1-4

Day 3 – Romans 8:5

Day 4 – Proverbs 3:1-6

Day 5 – John 15:5

Day 6 – James 4:4-8

Day 7 – Romans 12:1-2

To go deeper: Answer the following questions on a separate piece of paper/journal/laptop/etc.:

- What did you hear? (What did God say to you as you read the Scriptures for the day?)
- What do you think? (What does it mean to you, how does it apply to your life, and what difference will it make to you?)
- What will you do? (What action step will you take? How will you think differently? How will you live differently?)
- Now talk to God (Put your thoughts into prayer. It could be a prayer of gratitude or praise. It could be a prayer of confession or a request for God's help. It's up to you. But take a minute each day to write a prayer response to what you read in the Scriptures.)