



All Christians' Fellowship International

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Study to show "The Way of True life," Bible Study Outline

TOPIC: **Presenting the Cost of Commitment**
TEXT: ***Luke 14:25-35***

Instructions: - *Let the above passages be read each time you come together to study this topic so that everyone could participate fully. The teacher should provide additional background information on the topic and come up with follow-up questions. Participants should be brief in their responses and use relevant Bible references to illustrate their points. They should be careful not to dominate the discussion to allow everyone to have an equal opportunity to participate.*

Introduction: Jesus is sometimes presented as the ultimate product. He will help grades to go up, our weight to go down and our teeth to be white as can be. It is good to approach people based on their felt needs, but we must also present the cost of being a disciple. People must know who Jesus really is and the demands he makes on his followers. Jesus himself describes the cost of discipleship in Luke 14

1. What are some of the more superficial reasons why people come to Jesus today?
2. Read Luke 14:25-26. How do the words *turning* (v. 25) and if *anyone comes to me* (v. 26) help us visualize the scene? According to this story and your own experience, how are believers and nonbelievers affected when a professed Christian doesn't really follow Jesus?
3. What does the stiffness of Jesus' requirements for following him (Vs. 26-27) indicate about how he viewed these "followers"?
4. The word *hate* (v. 26) is used as an obvious exaggeration for emphasis. Parents were to be honored (Mt 15:3-4). How might relationships with others hinder a person from following Jesus?
5. To bear one's own cross meant to face the prospects of crucifixion daily (v. 27). What are some of the costs of following Jesus today?
6. In verses 28-30 Jesus may be alluding to Herod Antipas's pretentious, unfinished military tower (which may have been in sight). How does this story emphasize the importance of counting the cost of following Jesus?
7. In verses 31-32 Jesus may be implying that he is like the king with twenty thousand men. How does this story illustrate the importance of counting the cost of *not* following Jesus?
8. Jesus calls us to give up our rights to ownership (v. 33). What difference should that make in how we use our possessions?
9. In Jesus' day salt was valued as a preservative and for seasoning food. What then does it mean for a disciple to be "salty" (v. 34)?
What does this verse indicate about the value of superficial commitment?
10. How can we help our friends to think through the costs of commitment?
11. How should we respond if our friends need time to think things over before making a serious commitment to Christ?