

Perilous Discipleship

Lk.14:26-27,33

1-24-2016

Being a disciple of Jesus is no easy journey. What most people want is all the blessings with none of the responsibility or effort. Jesus warned those who followed Him saying: "Whoever does not bear his own cross and come after me cannot be my disciple." (Lk.14:27)

Jesus placed some harsh realities before His hearers because there was way too much at stake. Being Jesus' disciple meant making that more important than any other relationship and more valuable than any other thing. "If anyone 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." (Lk.14:26) "So therefore, any one of you who does not renounce all that he has cannot be my disciple." (Lk.14:33)

Jesus never said you would lose all your relationships and He never said you would lose all your possessions but He did say He (Jesus) must be more important than everything else. When we say or think 'I will do everything you ask of me as long as I agree with it.' Where does that put Jesus in relationship to ourselves? (Mt.10:24)

Jesus says this: "A disciple is not above his teacher, but everyone when he is fully trained will be like his teacher." (Lk.6:40) I would like you to notice the connective thought in this passage between Jesus and the disciple: "fully trained". Until a disciple is fully trained the teacher will always be the Teacher and the student will not be like Him.

I am not sure any of us will ever qualify to stand next to Jesus and tell Him He is wrong about anything He is asking us to do. Ever! Jesus' burning question still remains valid: "Why do you call me 'Lord, Lord,' and not do what I tell you?" (Lk.6:46) The rest of this passage (verses 47-49) tells us that wisdom (the right choice) is to do what Jesus says.

And how often should a person do what Jesus says? The wise builder begins with Jesus and God's Holy Word and ends with Jesus and God's Holy Word and everything in between. (1Cor.3:10-23) We are building what with our lives? To What end? When Jesus sent out the twelve He gave them some valuable insight into what being His disciple meant.

See Mat.10:5-42 for your home work for this week. Study these verses for open dialogue next week. (seriously, study them)