

Series: Counting the Cost The Cost of Being a Disciple

Luke 9:57-62 (NIV)

As they were walking along the road, a man said to him, "I will follow you wherever you go."

⁵⁸ Jesus replied, "Foxes have holes and birds of the air have nests, but the Son of Man has no place to lay his head."

⁵⁹ He said to another man, "Follow me."

But the man replied, "Lord, first let me go and bury my father."

⁶⁰ Jesus said to him, "Let the dead bury their own dead, but you go and proclaim the kingdom of God."

⁶¹ Still another said, "I will follow you, Lord; but first let me go back and say good-bye to my family."

⁶² Jesus replied, "No one who puts his hand to the plow and looks back is fit for service in the kingdom of God."

OBSERVATIONS:

1. Not everyone is ready for Lordship.
2. Lordship is more than words, it demands action.
3. Jesus sees our heart and knows our priorities.
4. Understanding Lordship forces us to change.

Lordship means...

1. I MUST COUNT THE COST IN SPITE OF WHAT THE FUTURE MAY HOLD.

vv. 57-58 "As they were walking along the road, a man said to him, 'I will follow you wherever you go.' Jesus replied, 'Foxes have holes and birds of the air have nests, but the Son of Man has no place to lay his head.'"

- Surrendering to Jesus as Lord will cost us.
- Understanding the cost demands commitment from us.
- We may not know what is around the next bend, but our commitment carries us through.

2. I MUST COUNT THE COST IN SPITE OF THE DIFFICULTY.

vv. 59-60 "He said to another man, 'Follow me.' But the man replied, 'Lord, first let me go and bury my father.' Jesus said to him, 'Let the dead bury their own dead, but you go and proclaim the kingdom of God.'"

- Following Christ requires us to set our priorities.
- The urgency of the gospel demands that we count the cost.
- Being a disciple of Jesus demands sacrifice.

3. I MUST COUNT THE COST NOW BECAUSE THERE IS NO TURNING BACK.

vv. 61-62 "Still another said, 'I will follow you, Lord; but first let me go back and say good-bye to my family.' Jesus replied, 'No one who puts his hand to the plow and looks back is fit for service in the kingdom of God.'"

- When we determine to follow Jesus, we must keep looking forward.
- There will always be something that tries to pull us back to our old way of life.

What does all this have to do with my stewardship?

1. Without understanding lordship, there is no stewardship.
2. Being a disciple of Jesus demands our total commitment and that includes what we do with our money.
3. Following Jesus demands a total surrender which encompasses every area of our lives.

**If Christ is the center of my life,
the circumference will take care of itself.**