

**Series: Living Out Our Purpose**  
**Growing Up by Giving Out**

(Grow in spiritual maturity through Discipleship)

Luke 14:25-33 (NIV)

*Large crowds were traveling with Jesus, and turning to them he said: <sup>26</sup>"If anyone comes to me and does not hate his father and mother, his wife and children, his brothers and sisters--yes, even his own life--he cannot be my disciple. <sup>27</sup>And anyone who does not carry his cross and follow me cannot be my disciple.*

*<sup>28</sup>"Suppose one of you wants to build a tower. Will he not first sit down and estimate the cost to see if he has enough money to complete it? <sup>29</sup>For if he lays the foundation and is not able to finish it, everyone who sees it will ridicule him, <sup>30</sup>saying, 'This fellow began to build and was not able to finish.'"*

*<sup>31</sup>"Or suppose a king is about to go to war against another king. Will he not first sit down and consider whether he is able with ten thousand men to oppose the one coming against him with twenty thousand? <sup>32</sup>If he is not able, he will send a delegation while the other is still a long way off and will ask for terms of peace. <sup>33</sup>In the same way, any of you who does not give up everything he has cannot be my disciple.*

**Being an authentic follower of Jesus means:**

**1. WE UNDERSTAND OUR PRIORITIES.**

*v. 26 "If anyone comes to me and does not hate his father and mother, his wife and children, his brothers and sisters--yes, even his own life--he cannot be my disciple."*

- Our devotion to Christ should be so strong that all other relationships look like hatred in comparison.
- We must take spiritual growth seriously.
- We must accept the responsibility to grow.

**2. WE UNDERSTAND THE SACRIFICE.**

*v. 27 "And anyone who does not carry his cross and follow me cannot be my disciple."*

- Becoming a disciple of Jesus is a conditional agreement.
- Becoming a disciple of Jesus will not always be easy.
- Becoming a disciple of Jesus demands a full commitment.

**3. WE UNDERSTAND THE COST.**

*vv. 26-33*

- Christ followers must understand the cost of being a disciple.
- Many stop following Jesus when the price gets too high.
- What does following Jesus really cost us?  
Everything!

*v. 33 "In the same way, any of you who does not give up everything he has cannot be my disciple."*

**What does it mean to give up everything?**

- It starts by understanding that we are managers not owners.
- It means we lay everything at Jesus' feet.  
Our time  
Our talents  
Our treasures
- It means that after we lay it down, we don't pick it up again.

**Our love and devotion to Christ should be so strong that it causes all other relationships to pale in comparison. Then, after counting the cost of being a disciple we surrender our lives to Jesus Christ.**