

“Count the Cost”

Luke 14:25-30

Introduction

- I. When making a big decision in life, it is wise to seek counsel and research.
- II. Spiritually, we must examine whether we want to be child of God/Christian or not (Luke 14:28-30; Luke 9:57-62).
 - A. Am I willing to put following Jesus before personal comforts?
 - B. Am I willing to put following Jesus before family?
 - C. Am I willing to put following Jesus before any other earthly distractions?

Discussion

- I. Am I willing to put following Jesus before personal comforts?
 - A. A certain scribe claimed that he would follow Jesus anywhere (Matt. 8:19; Luke 9:57).
 - B. The truth is that following Jesus required the forfeiture of personal comforts (Luke 9:58).
 - C. We must realize that following Jesus may require our forfeiture of personal comforts (Luke 9:23; John 16:33; 2 Tim. 3:12).
- II. Am I willing to put following Jesus before family?
 - A. We must not use family responsibilities as an excuse not to follow Jesus (Luke 9:61).
 - B. While we should be faithful in regards to our families, they cannot be put ahead of Jesus (Matt. 10:34-37; Matt. 15:4-6; Exo. 20:12; Eph. 6:1-3).
 - C. We will have a difficult time converting our families if they see that we do not put Jesus before them.
- III. Am I willing to put following Jesus before any other earthly distractions?
 - A. While we may enjoy many things in this life, they can never be put before the Lord (Matt. 6:33).
 - B. To keep plowing straight, we must keep looking forward (Luke 9:62).
 - C. Sports, hobbies and pleasures can all be distractions from Jesus.

Conclusion

- I. So, you want to be a child of God?
- II. Have you counted the cost?