

# The Radical Cost of Discipleship



Luke 14:25-33

# Football Scholarship



# Football Scholarship

“Everything in my life  
in college was paid in  
full...

And for the next four  
years... It cost me  
**EVERYTHING.**”



# Football Scholarship

If you call yourself a  
follower of Christ...  
it's going to require a  
**total commitment** of  
all that you are.



# Background on Luke 14

**Main Theme:** Who Is Lord of your life?  
You or God?

Is Jesus Lord of my time?

Is Jesus Lord of my talents?

Is Jesus Lord of my Treasures?

## Luke 14:25-33

<sup>25</sup> Large crowds were traveling with Jesus, and turning to them he said: <sup>26</sup> “If anyone comes to me and does not hate father and mother, wife and children, brothers and sisters—yes, even their own life—such a person cannot be my disciple. <sup>27</sup> And whoever does not carry their cross and follow me cannot be my disciple.

## Luke 14:25-33

<sup>28</sup> “Suppose one of you wants to build a tower. Won’t you first sit down and estimate the cost to see if you have enough money to complete it? <sup>29</sup> For if you lay the foundation and are not able to finish it, everyone who sees it will ridicule you, <sup>30</sup> saying, ‘This person began to build and wasn’t able to finish.’

## Luke 14:25-33

<sup>31</sup> “Or suppose a king is about to go to war against another king. Won’t he 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.

Luke 14:25-33

**33** In the same way, those of you who do not give up everything you have cannot be my disciples.

# Roadmap

## **A True Disciple of Christ:**

**I. Loves Jesus the Most (v. 25-26)**

**II. Dies to Self (v. 27)**

**III. Considers the Cost (v. 28-32)**

**Conclusion: Give Him Everything (v. 33)**

# I. A True Disciple Loves Jesus the Most

**25 Large crowds were traveling with Jesus,** and turning to them he said: **26** “If anyone comes to me and does not hate father and mother, wife and children, brothers and sisters—yes, even their own life—such a person cannot be my disciple.



# I. A True Disciple Loves Jesus the Most

**Crowd Mentality:** It's easy to be a part of Crowd. Easy to be hidden without ever having to make a commitment to Jesus Christ.

# I. A True Disciple Loves Jesus the Most

<sup>26</sup> “If anyone comes to me **and does not hate** father and mother, wife and children, brothers and sisters—yes, even their own life—such a person cannot be my disciple.

# I. A True Disciple Loves Jesus the Most

## Why the term: Hate your Family?

- Jesus uses **strong negative words** to highlight what we hold dear.
- By way of extreme **Comparison**, **We are to Love Christ more than anything else.**

# I. A True Disciple Loves Jesus the Most

Luke 10:27 → He answered,  
“Love the Lord your God with  
**all your heart** and with **all your  
soul** and with **all your strength**  
and with **all your mind**’ and,  
‘Love your neighbor as  
yourself.’”



# Order of Affections

- 1. God**
- 2. Family**
- 3. Friends**
- 4. Work**
- 5. Possessions**

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Friends, Work  
Possessions**

Francis Chan

“God demands we treat Him as Holy. Which mean He is **SET APART.**

If we loved God the way we ought, there will be **no such thing as a close second.**”

## II. A True Disciple Dies to Self

<sup>27</sup> And whoever does not carry their cross and follow me **cannot** be my disciple.

## II. A True Disciple Dies to Self

The Cross was literally a symbol of:

- **Death** to Self
- **Submission** to the Ruling Authorities

## II. A True Disciple Dies to Self

My life is no longer my own. I will no longer look out for myself first, but look out for Christ as the priority. (Luke 22:42)

→ <sup>42</sup> “Father, if you are willing, take this cup from me; **yet not my will, but yours be done.**”

“Christianity has always insisted that the cross we bear **precedes** the crown we wear. To be a Christian, one must take up his cross, with all of its difficulties and agonizing and tragedy packed content, and carry it until that very cross leaves its mark upon us...” - **Martin Luther King Jr.**

II. A True Disciple Dies to Self

**What does Taking up the Cross  
Mean?**

## II. A True Disciple Dies to Self

### **What does Taking up the Cross Mean?**

LOOK TO **CHRIST FIRST**. NOT  
OURSELVES

## II. A True Disciple Dies to Self

Colossians 3:1-2 → Since, then, you have been raised with Christ, set your hearts on things above, where Christ is, seated at the right hand of God. **Set your mind on things above, not on earthly things.**

## II. A True Disciple Dies to Self

**It makes you ask the question:**

To **whom** do I belong?

**Why** has he left me here on this earth?

**What** is he calling me to do?

**What** do I need to die to?

### III. A True Disciple Considers the Cost

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### III. A True Disciple Considers the Cost

<sup>31</sup> “Or suppose a king is about to go to war against another king. Won’t he 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.

### III. A True Disciple Considers the Cost

**First Parable (v 28-30) → It will Cost You EVERYTHING to Follow Him**

**Second Parable (v 31-32) → It will Cost You EVERYTHING if you do Not Follow Him.**

Conclusion: Give Him Everything

*33 In the same way, those of you who do not give up everything you have cannot be my disciples.*

Conclusion: Give Him Everything

*<sup>33</sup> In the same way, those of you who do not give up everything you have cannot be my disciples.*

God is asking us to make a fundamental change in the ownership of our lives.

Conclusion: Give Him Everything

You will no longer **be your own**. You will be owned by the King of Kings.

Conclusion: Give Him Everything

Final Question:

Is God Worth the Cost??

# Conclusion: Give Him Everything

## **Matthew 13:44-46**

"The kingdom of heaven is like treasure hidden in a field. When a man found it, he hid it again, and then **in his joy went and sold all he had and bought that field.** <sup>45</sup> "Again, the kingdom of heaven is like a merchant looking for fine pearls. When he found one of great value, he went away and **sold everything he had and bought it.**

# Conclusion: Give Him Everything

## Mark 10:28-30

<sup>28</sup> Then Peter spoke up, “We have left everything to follow you!” <sup>29</sup> “Truly I tell you,” Jesus replied, “**no one who has left home or brothers or sisters or mother or father or children or fields for me and the gospel** <sup>30</sup> will fail to receive **a hundred times as much in this present age**: homes, brothers, sisters, mothers, children and fields—along with persecutions—and in the age to come eternal life.



God's Love is Radical but  
not Reckless

# **Avery T. Willis Jr.**

My face is set, my gait is fast, my goal is heaven, my road is narrow, my way is rough, my companions are few, my Guide is reliable, my mission is clear. I cannot be bought, compromised, detoured, lured away, turned back, deluded, or delayed.

# Avery T. Willis Jr.

I will not flinch in the face of sacrifice, hesitate in the presence of the adversary, negotiate at the table of the enemy, ponder at the pool of popularity, or meander in the maze of mediocrity.

# Avery T. Willis Jr.

I won't give up, shut up, let up, until I have stayed up, stored up, prayed up, paid up, and preached up for the cause of Christ. I am a disciple of Jesus.

# Avery T. Willis Jr.

I must go till He comes, give till I drop, preach till all know, and work till He stops me. And when He comes for His own, He will have no problem recognizing me - **my banner will be clear.”**

# Conclusion: Give Him Everything

Lord Jesus, I want to experience your presence and love today. I believe that Jesus died on the cross to pay the price for my sins. I admit I'm a sinner in need of a savior, and I'm inviting you to be mine right now. Come into my life. Forgive my sins. Live in me as my Savior and Master from now on. I believe you are a God who saves and I want to be with you forever. Amen