

Fresh Obedience

A Battle Fought by Disciples

(Luke 14:25-27, 33)

INTRODUCTION:

a. There was no misunderstanding for the Apostle Paul about our purpose here on earth. He knew he was in a battle for souls.

I have fought the good fight, I have finished the race, I have kept the faith.

2 Timothy 4:7 (NIV)

b. Being a Christian today is very confusing.

c. Jesus wasn't confused about our purpose and calling.

Then a teacher of the law came to him (Jesus) and said, "Teacher, I will follow you wherever you go." Jesus replied, "Foxes have holes and birds have nests, but the Son of Man has no place to lay his head." Matthew 8:19, 20 (NIV)

Large crowds were traveling with Jesus, and turning to them he said: "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. And anyone who does not carry his cross and follow me cannot be my disciple....any of you who does not give up everything he has cannot be my disciple."

Luke 14:25-27, 33 (NIV)

- Why did it seem that Jesus was so harsh?

- Who were all these people following him?

Jesus called us to be disciples. So what/who is a disciple?

Clear answers from Luke 14:

1. A Disciple Loves Jesus _____.

- "Hating" our father, mother, wife, children, brothers and sisters!
- "Hate" means to _____.
- "Hating" our own life.
- Matthew 16:23, 24
- "Hating" and "denying" ourselves mean the same thing.

2. A Disciple _____ his cross and _____ Jesus.

- What the cross symbolizes.
- It's not _____ to carry a cross.
- To follow is to _____.

3. A Disciple gives up _____.

- The problem is not in having something, the problem is in _____ it.

"Everything is permissible for me"—but not everything is beneficial. "Everything is permissible for me"—but I will not be mastered by anything.

1 Corinthians 6:12 (NIV)

- "You can't serve two"
- My new heroes: The Moravian Missionaries, Lyndsay Harrison, and Bruce Olson.