**Bible Study – Counting the Cost**

**Read Luke 14:25-35**

**Question’s for understanding:**

What do you think Jesus means when He says, “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”?

What is the 1st thing the tower builder should do before he begins to build?

What is the 1st thing the king does before he goes to war?

What do you think the main point Jesus is trying to get across?

Why do you think he had such demanding requirements?

**Personal Application:**

Is there a relationship that hinders, obstructs, or takes precedence over your devotion to Christ?

Are you willing to submit/yield your dreams and plans for the future to the will of God?

What dreams are most difficult for you to yield to God?

Are you willing to narrow your activities and involvement to enable you to be available for discipleship?

Jesus concludes His discourse by saying, “He who has ears let him hear.” In other words, Jesus respected His followers’ individuality by giving them the choice. Many of those who chose to become His disciples were probably among the group of 120 who responded to Jesus’ challenge (Acts 1:15). Perhaps others made that choice later. Most certainly, some never made the choice at all.

What will you do?

**An Eternal Perspective:**

“Show me, O Lord, my life’s end and the number of my days; let me know how fleeting is my life. You have made my days a mere handbreadth; the span of my years is as nothing before you. Each man’s life is but a breath.” Psalm 39:4-6

(note: Handbreath – Is one of the smallest units of measurement in ancient Israel. It is the equivalent of a couple of inches. Thus the psalmist reminds himself that life is short.)

**Calculating the Benefits:**

By being committed to a discipleship relationship, ask yourself…

How will I benefit now? How will I benefit in the future? How will I benefit in eternity?

“I want to free up time to embrace the only things that will last anyway.” Chris Adsit

**The Commitment**

If you were embarking on an enterprise of great significance, would you rather partner with 100 people who were 10% committed, or 10 people who are 100% committed? Why?

**My Commitment to you…**

* Pray consistently for you and with you
* Spend regular time with you on- on-one or in a small group
* Be available to you
* Train you in the basics of walking with God and ministry skills
* Ask the hard questions
* Communicate the truth in grace and love

**Your Commitment…**

* Attend a Bible study and invite friends
* Attend one conference/retreat this year
* Attend discipleship appointment each week
* Commitment to a local church

**Heart Issues**

* Filled with the Holy Spirit
* Receptive to correction
* Keep short accounts
* Transparent
* Others-focused
* Spend time with Jesus
* Consistent prayer life
* Willingness to share Christ with others