

Luke 14.25-35

You Cannot be My Disciple

1972 Camp Fox / Catalina Island – Received Jesus @ L & S: Good News

Signed by Friends & Camp Leaders > Highlight Vss – Challenge Luke 14

Struggled for 53 try and Live Out this Teaching of Master & Savior!!

Jesus moves like TORNADO thru Luke 14 > Challenging all He Meets!

Luke keeps Changing PERSPECTIVE of Camera Shots on JESUS

Zoom: Dinner Parties // Tight Shots: Disciples // Wide Angle: Crowds

v. 25 Now great crowds accompanied him ...

Everyone Loves a PARADE – EXCITING – Atmosphere was Electric

Large Crowds MANY Motives – Get FED, Get HEALED, See Miracles

Zealots eager to OVERTHROW Oppressive Roman COLONIAL Rule

Jesus THINS Crowds w Strong Demands > Follow Him?? Come and Die!

1. Call of Jesus

v. 25 great crowds accompanied him, and he turned and said to them

Jesus sees Journey to Jerusalem as OPPORTUNITY to Gain DISCIPLES

Jesus gives them FULL Attention > TURNS and Speaks to Them

a. Shock! > HATE your FAMILY and KILL YOURSELF!

Described Great Banquet – Religion & Connections might DISQUALIFY

Those who Expect to Sit w Abraham, Isaac, & Jacob, Loyal Jews – OUT!

Gentiles from Distant Lands take Seats of HONOR @ God's BANQUET!

Kingdom of God Demands New Commitments, Attitudes, and Allegiances

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

Being Disciple is Giving the ONE you Follow your FIRST LOYALTY

1st Commandment: “You shall have No gods BEFORE Me!”

Jesus 1st Com: “Love Lord your God w/ all heart, soul, mind, strength”

Love for God Far Above Most Dear, Natural, Vital Relationships of Life

Emphasis of Kingdom: RE-Directed LOYALTIES > New Community

Jesus NOT Inviting SPECTATORS but SOLDIERS

Modern Preachers > Every HEAD BOWED – EYE Closed

NOT going to Make you EVEN Stand Up – Lift Up Head – EYES Meet Do NOT Worry – NO

ONE Will KNOW you DECIDED to Follow Jesus

Jesus NEVER says we should Focus on FAMILY: Focus on Him Alone

Sometimes Following Him means going Against RELIGION of Family

Some Parents Discourage Children from making FULL Commitment to X

Some MARRIAGES turn INWARD instead Serving & Giving to Others

Some Parents make IDOLS of their CHILDREN & their ACTIVITIES

Sometimes Must Challenge Family Expects: Job, Career, Lifestyle, Home

@ END of Day WHO is Lord of ur Life? Marriage? FAMILY? KIDS?

Only when Jesus is Unrivaled Lord can you TRULY LOVE Anyone Else

b. Scripture interprets Scripture

"Was not Esau Jacob's brother?" the LORD says. "Yet I have loved Jacob, but Esau I have hated"
Malachi 1.2,3

...the love the disciple has for him (Jesus) must be so great that the best of earthly loves is hatred
by comparison. Leon Morris

Jacob...loved Rachel more than Leah...Leah was hated Genesis 29.30,31

Not Screaming "I HATE You" – Slamming Doors & Hanging Up Phone!

NO Allowance in Scripture to Literally HATE Anyone esp. Your Parents

Love your enemies, do good to those who hate you... Luke 6.27

If anyone does not provide for his relatives, and especially for his immediate family, he has
denied the faith and is worse than an unbeliever. 1 Timothy 5.8

5th Comm: "Honor your father and your mother..." Exodus 20.12

Take CARE of your Children / Love Wife / Provide for FAMILY

Love for Jesus SO EXCEEDS All Other Loves / All Earthly Affections

2. Consideration

Jesus wants DECISIVE, DELIBERATE, DETERMINED Disciples

Following HIM Not a Whim, Emotional Decision > Count the COSTS

vs. 28-30 For which of you, desiring to build a tower, does not 1st sit down & count the cost, whether he has enough to complete it? Otherwise, when he has laid a foundation and is not able to finish, all who see it begin to mock him, saying, ‘This man began to build and was not able to finish.’

Parable from RURAL Life > TOWER for One’s VINEYARD

BETTER VIEW of ONCOMING Thieves and FORAGING Animals

POOR Planning results in PUBLIC HUMILIATION

1990’s National Aeronautics & Space Admin, NASA from USA > Mars

MISSION MOTTO ‘FASTER, BETTER, CHEAPER’

Save \$ NOT Buy Simulation Braking Software for COMPUTER Testing

Dec1999 Mars Polar Lander slammed Full Speed into Mars: 1000’s pieces

Space Craft cost \$ 165 Million > TRULY – ‘Faster, Better, Cheaper’

vs. 31,32 Or what king, going out to encounter another king in war, will not sit down 1st & deliberate whether he is able w 10,000 to meet him who comes against him w 20,000? And if not, while the other is yet a great way off, he sends a delegation and asks for terms of peace.

Parable from Royal House: Great Issues of War & Peace are Settled

A foolish general begins a battle hoping for victory,
a wise general begins a battle having already secured it. Sun Tzu

Rich & Poor/ Royalty & Peasants: All Must make Impt Life Decision

SIMILAR Stories > DIFFERENT Points

Tower Building is CHOICE / Responding to INVASION is NECESSITY

Sit down and reckon whether you can afford to follow me...Sit down and reckon whether you can afford to refuse my demands. A.M. Hunter

Begin Path of Discipleship? > Do you have Stamina to Finish the March?

3. Commitment

Seeker-Friendly: but NOT Seeker-Friendly Gospel > One Message

3 Vs. END with Same Words: “Cannot be my Disciple”

26 “anyone come to me & does not hate his own father & mother & wife & children & bros & sis, yes & even his own life *cannot be my disciple*

27 Whoever not bear own cross & come after me *cannot be my disciple*

v. 33 “any one of you..not renounce all that he has *cannot be my disciple*”

Refusing to ENDORSE a Relationship that DISHONORS God
 World 'Don't Ask, Don't Tell' > God WILL ASK and you WILL TELL
 Confront Bro, Sis, Mother, Father who PRACTICING Open Sin
 Office: Speak for TRUTH when Colleagues told BOSS ANOTHER Story
 CLASSROOM when behave RIGHTEOUSLY when all others REBEL

Unless Jesus is our highest affection we cannot be his disciples. P Ryken
 Pastor – Not Marry Unequally Yoked – Both Believers / Both Unbelievers
 Daughter of Leading Church Member – UNBELIEVER came with MAN
 No Prob > Mandatory Preparation CLASS > PROBLEM AROSE
 MAN Received Jesus as Savior & Lord > Pastor NOT MARRY them
 Church Member led REVOLT against Pastor / Refused Marry Daughter
 Appears to THEM you are LOVING God MORE than Them –
 IN TRUTH you are LOVING BOTH – FAMILY / FRIENDS AND God

Crowd NO IDEA Jesus going to JERUSALEM to DIE on a CROSS
 27 Whoever not bear own cross & come after me cannot be my disciple
 When Man from their Village went OFF w Small Group Roman Soldiers
 CARRYING his Own CROSS – ONE Way Trip – NOT Coming Back
 'bearing Cross' Today NOT Normal LIFE AFFLICTIONS faced by ALL
 PAIN in Family Life – LOW Salary – BAD Health – LOUSY Neighbors
 Cross: What we ENDURE BECAUSE we KNOWN as Follower of Jesus
 Mocked @ School, Gossip of Neighbors, Hatred Workplace, Strife Home
 IF this is FOR Jesus, it is FROM Jesus, We must ENDURE it WITH Jesus
 Jerusalem NOT DISTANT Goal – Soon will be PAINFUL REALITY

v. 33 any one who does not renounce all that he has cannot be my disciple
 Radical: ALL or Nothing Demand > Called to TOTAL Detachment
 Give Up, Say Goodbye = Renounce > Present Tense > Constantly
 Characteristic Feature of Disciple: Entire LIFE Rooted in GOD ALONE!
 Only a man who is God could honestly make these claims & expect them to be met

Douglas Milne

4. Constant

vs. 34,35 “Salt is good, but if salt has lost its taste, how shall its saltiness be restored? It is of no use either for the soil or for the manure pile. It is thrown away. He who has ears to hear, let him hear.”

Salt 1st C Palestine Poor Quality, Salt Content Leached from Salt Crystals

Point: What Lasting Thing will U TRUST IN? Family? Self? Resources?

All on Earth Fails – Even Salt can LOOSE its SAVOR – All DECAYS

Inadequacy of your Resources – INABILITY of all you TRUST In

When Jesus invites a man to follow him, he bids him to come and die. Dietrich Bonhoeffer

IF you BURN all your BRIDGES > WHERE are you Going to STAND?

If you BURN all Worldly BRIDGES – Do you have ETERNAL One?

Lord, you have been our dwelling place throughout all generations. Before the mountains were born or you brought forth the earth and the world, from everlasting to everlasting you are God.

Psalm 90.1,2

2007 Nodule on Thyroid > Tests Ptd to CANCER > Needed REMOVE

Other Surgeries – Gone Fine – NO Worries > But NEVER Slit my Throat!

Dr Disclaimer: Major Arteries, Nerves, Vocal Cords: Accidents Happen!

5 Days of Worry – NOT SWEATING because it was HOT in Singapore!

Went Forward Church Service for Prayer from Elders > Could NOT Sleep

Surgery went FINE, WAS Cancer: 2 Months Later, Other Half Thyroid

No More Worries, Back to Work KZ, Flew 2 Singapore, Taxi Hospital

Wheeled to Op Theater – High 5's to Team > Go ahead, Slit my Throat!

Knew VERY GOOD HANDS, TRUSTED: CARED 4 my BEST Interests

FALLIBLE People – COULD have MADE MISTAKE – PTL Did NOT!

God is NOT a MAN – CANNOT MAKE Mistake – Cares for your BEST

For your PRESENT, FUTURE, ETERNITY / You, Family, Friends, ALL!

"Ah, Sovereign LORD, you have made the heavens and the earth by your great power and outstretched arm. Nothing is too hard for you." Jer 32.17

Verses from Psalm 18 The Lord Is My Rock and My Fortress

I love you, O Lord, my strength.

The Lord is my rock and my fortress and my deliverer, my God, my rock, in whom I take refuge,

my shield, and the horn of my salvation, my stronghold.

I call upon the Lord, who is worthy to be praised, and I am saved from my enemies.

The cords of death encompassed me; the torrents of destruction assailed me;

the cords of Sheol entangled me; the snares of death confronted me.

In my distress I called upon the Lord; to my God I cried for help.

From his temple he heard my voice, and my cry to him reached his ears.

Then the earth reeled and rocked; the foundations also of the mountains trembled and quaked, because he was angry.

Smoke went up from his nostrils, and devouring fire from his mouth;

glowing coals flamed forth from him. He bowed the heavens and came down; thick darkness was under his feet.

He rode on a cherub and flew; he came swiftly on the wings of the wind...

With the merciful you show yourself merciful;

with the blameless man you show yourself blameless;

with the purified you show yourself pure;

and with the crooked you make yourself seem tortuous.

For you save a humble people,

but the haughty eyes you bring down.

For it is you who light my lamp; the Lord my God lightens my darkness...

This God—his way is perfect; the word of the Lord proves true;

he is a shield for all those who take refuge in him.

For who is God, but the Lord? And who is a rock, except our God?...

For this I will praise you, O Lord, among the nations, and sing to your name.

Great salvation he brings to his king,

and shows steadfast love to his anointed, to David and his offspring forever.

Amen and Amen.