

FOLLOW ME

IN STEP WITH JESUS - THE GOSPEL OF LUKE

Seriously, Think About It! | Luke 18:18-30; 14:25-35

November 4, 2007

1. What did you walk away with from Sunday's message? What stood out to you? What questions or comments came to mind?

Leader Hints:

Ask for general impressions from Pastor Earl's sermon. Remind everyone of the two main points:

- *There is a cost to not following Jesus.*
- *There is a cost to following Jesus.*

2. What is the difference between being a member of the crowd who is "hanging out with Jesus" and being a "follower of Jesus"?

Leader Hints:

You may want to ask someone to read Luke 14:25-35. Remember that following Jesus is about being in relationship with him and taking on his character and mission. The point made in the message is that when you follow Jesus, he becomes your priority, he is your identity (specifically his death—"take up your cross"), and what he values you value.

3. What does it look like for Jesus to be the priority in different areas of your life? For example, with your spouse, your children, your career, your resources, your talents.

Leader Hints:

In Luke 14:26 the word "hate" is used not in an actual sense but in a comparative sense. Jesus sets up a striking contrast for his followers between their radical love for him and their relative hatred of everything else in life.

4. In what ways should our lives be characterized by the values of Jesus? How should we be shaped by what is important to him?

5. Why do you think that there is so little difference in 21st century North American culture between those who call themselves followers of Jesus and those who don't?

6. How committed are you to following Jesus? Is there anything standing in the way of this being a reality in your life? What action(s) do you need to take to more fully follow him?