



Count The Cost (3/8/15)

Have you ever been to the bank with your parents? What do they do at the bank? They put money in the bank or take money out of the bank. The bank is a place where they save their money to use it to buy stuff later or borrow money to make big purchases like a house or a car. You can't buy something if you don't have the money to pay for it. So you have to consider the cost of something before you buy it.

Think about how bad it would be if your parents wanted to build a house with the money they had in the bank, but realized after they started that they couldn't pay for it. The house would never get finished. Your new house might only have walls but no windows or roof. That would make it hard to live in, wouldn't it? So you have to plan what you are going to do, and spend the right amount of money on it. You have to count the cost of something before you spend the money on it.

Jesus told us that the same kind of thing is true about being a disciple. Read Luke 14:25-33 to see what Jesus said about following Him.

Jesus says in this passage that being his disciple is going to cost you something, and you must decide if it is worth it. It will cost you time. You must worship Jesus, if you are going to be his disciple. You can't just sit at home and never go to church. Another thing you have to do is to share with others. This means sharing with others the things that the Lord has blessed us with. We learned last week about how we should invite those who might normally be left out to our parties. This is an example of sharing our blessings with others. You also must be forgiving. That means when someone does something wrong to you and it makes you angry, that you cannot stay angry. You must be ready to forgive the person who hurt you. These are some of the things you must be willing to do if you want to be a disciple of Jesus. We call these things "counting the cost". Being a follower of Jesus is not always easy, but it is always worth it!

Discussion Questions:

- What does Jesus mean when he says we must hate our family to follow him?
- What is the man who is building the tower supposed to do before he builds?
- What is the man who is going to war supposed to do before he goes into battle?
- What are some other ways we can "count the cost" of following Jesus?

Look back at Kennon's weekly email and take some time to listen to the songs with your family that we will be singing in worship this Sunday.

Scripture Memory From Harvest Kids for March (ESV Translation)

PK/JK: Matthew 5:11

SK/1st: Matthew 5:10-12

2nd/3rd: Matthew 5:10-12

4th/5th: Matthew 5:3-12

Pray that God would help us to follow him no matter what the cost is. Pray that we would put God first in everything we do and say.

Sermon Follow-Up Question

What is something that you learned from the sermon that you had never heard before?