



*Teachings of the Teacher – A study in the parables of Jesus
Builders and Warriors*

Luke 14:25-35

Lesson 12

Jesus took the opportunity, as the *multitudes went with Him*, to challenge their sincerity. Tagging along does not make one a *disciple*. There is a cost to *discipleship*. Jesus held nothing back when He explained His requirements. Many would turn away. Some would not. Although no one is required to be a disciple, there are requirements for discipleship. Which phrase in the previous sentence are you drawn to – the excuse to settle for an easier way or the challenge of a *well done*?

OBSERVATION: Read Luke 14:25-35

1. Read through this week's verses using both your Observation Worksheet (the last page of this homework) and another Bible translation or paraphrase. After reading through these verses, what would you say to someone if they asked you what they were about?
2. Key words help us to better understand a parable. We have listed below key words of these parables. Mark each one in a distinctive way (either with a symbol, highlighting, or some form of boxing, circling, or underlining). Mark each of the key words each time they are used in the text.

Key Words: words that refer to *Jesus*, *count/consider*, and the phrase *cannot be My disciple*

3. Jesus often asks questions as a teaching tool. Underline the questions asked.
 - a. List each question by filling in the blanks.

Luke 14:28 For which of you, intending to _____, does not _____ and _____, whether he has _____ to _____ it --

Luke 14:31 Or what _____, going to _____ another king, does not _____ and _____ whether _____ with ten thousand to _____ who comes against him with twenty thousand?

Luke 14:35 Salt is _____; but if _____ has _____, how shall it _____ ?

4. The contrasting word *but* is used twice. Mark each time this word is used. Choose one of the times this word is used. Record what is being contrasted and the significance of the contrast.

5. The term of conclusion, *likewise*, is used once. Mark the word and record the conclusion stated.

CONSIDER THESE THINGS:

1. How have you counted the cost recently before tackling a project at home or at work?

2. When counting costs, what do you tend to ignore or forget to factor in?

3. How much do you take into account the reaction of others when planning something?

DISQUALIFIERS: Read Luke 14:25-27, 33

1. *Now great multitudes went with Him...* (verse 25). Notice the word *went*. It is to those who *went* with Jesus that He spoke to about being His *disciples*. How does someone who "follows along" differ from one who "follows" in terms of *discipleship*?

2. The conditions mentioned Luke 14:26,27, and 33 would eliminate many. What are the requirements of *discipleship* presented by Jesus in these verses?
 - a. Notice the word *hate* in verse 26. It is crucial that we understand Jesus is not suggesting we *hate* anyone, especially those who are closest to us. Rather, *hate*, as it is used here, means "love less" or "have a lesser priority". How does Matthew 10:37 clarify this?

- b. For I have come to 'set a man against his father, a daughter against her mother, and a daughter-in-law against her mother-in-law'; and 'a man's enemies will be those of his own household.' (Matthew 10:35-36) In what ways can choosing Jesus over someone else, cause conflict?
3. Jesus had not yet disclosed the *cross* as the means of His death. The *cross* was known to be a cruel instrument of punishment for criminals. Considering this, what do you think being willing to *bear your cross* might mean?
4. Jesus summarized the cost of *discipleship* in Luke 14:33. Zodiates, a Greek scholar, provides the following definition of the word *forsake*: carries the notion of putting something aside (perhaps in its correct priority) to prevent it from being a hindrance or gaining excessive control. In what way does this help clarify what Jesus expects of a *disciple*?
- a. The Bible reveals God's value of relationships (i.e. husbands, wives, parents, children, employees, employers) by instructing us to love and honor one another. How does this help us to know God does not intend us to forsake (in terms of walking out on) our relationships?

COUNTING THE COST - BUILDING: Read Luke 14:28,29

1. The first example Jesus provides regarding *discipleship* is that of *building a tower*. What costs should a person *count*?
2. What types of *costs* should be *counted*?
- a. When you consider a *building* or repair project, what do you consider to be more costly: lack of support, time, money or _____?
- b. What do you do when you face a project and you do not think you have the means to complete it?

3. What consequence of not completing *the tower* did Jesus present in Luke 14:29?
 - a. Scan Titus 2:3,4 and record the consequences of disobedience according to Titus 2:5.
 - 1.) How can disobedience to the Word of God give others an opportunity to *blaspheme* or *mock*?
4. In what ways is following Jesus as a *disciple* similar to *building a tower*?
5. Record the promises to the one who is *steadfast* or *does well*:
1 Corinthians 15:58

Matthew 25:21

COUNTING THE COST - GOING TO WAR: Read Luke 14:31,32

1. A *disciple* must not only count the cost, but he must *consider* the battle. What did Jesus tell us to *consider* in Luke 14:31?
 - a. According to the following verse, what might the *king* do, if he had not first *considered* his opponent?
2. The *devil*, among other names, is called *our adversary*. According to 1 Peter 5:8, what is his goal?
3. As believers, who do we *wrestle against*? Ephesians 6:11,12
 - a. What is the promise of using the weapons God has provided? Ephesians 6:13

Challenge: Using Ephesians 6:14-18, define those weapons

4. What are some ways we might underestimate the power of our foe?
 - a. What are some consequences of underestimating the power of our foe?

5. Write the glorious promise of 1 John 4:4.
 - a. Explain how we should be both confident, yet watchful, as we *consider the spiritual war* that we face.

SALTY DISCIPLES: Read Luke 14:34,35

1. *Salt is good.* What are some of the benefits of salt?

2. What kind of *salt* is *neither fit for the land nor for the dunghill*?
 - a. What do men do with *salt* when it *has lost its flavor*?

3. What title are believers given in Matthew 5:13?
 - a. In what ways are *believers* like *salt*?

 - b. How can a believer lose his *flavor*?

REVIEW: Read Luke 14:25-35

1. When you *count the cost* of being a *disciple* of Jesus, what do you:
 - a. think He might be asking you to *forsake* ?

 - b. possess that is most costly?

 - c. fear?

2. When you consider being a *disciple* of Jesus, what are the benefits?

3. In what way have you been challenged by this lesson?

*And everyone who has left houses or brothers or sisters
or father or mother or wife or children or lands,
for My name's sake,
shall receive a hundredfold, and inherit eternal life.
- Matthew 19:29*

Observation Worksheet

Luke 14:25-35

Now great multitudes went with Him. And He turned and said to them, ²⁶"If anyone comes to Me and does not hate his father and mother, wife and children, brothers and sisters, yes, and his own life also, he cannot be My disciple. ²⁷And whoever does not bear his cross and come after Me cannot be My disciple. ²⁸For which of you, intending to build a tower, does not sit down first and count the cost, whether he has enough to finish it-- ²⁹lest, after he has laid the foundation, and is not able to finish, all who see it begin to mock him, ³⁰saying, 'This man began to build and was not able to finish.' ³¹Or what king, going to make war against another king, does not sit down first and consider whether he is able with ten thousand to meet him who comes against him with twenty thousand? ³²Or else, while the other is still a great way off, he sends a delegation and asks conditions of peace. ³³So likewise, whoever of you does not forsake all that he has cannot be My disciple.

³⁴"Salt is good; but if the salt has lost its flavor, how shall it be seasoned? ³⁵It is neither fit for the land nor for the dunghill, but men throw it out. He who has ears to hear, let him hear!"