

Discipleship

Lesson #05

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Dean Bible Ministries

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DISCIPLESHIP

IMITATORS OF CHRIST

Are We Willing to Count the Cost?
Luke 14:25–33

μαθητής *mathētēs*

learner, pupil, disciple, student

- 1. Called but do not believe.**
- 2. Called and do believe.**
- 3. Called follow intermittently, but are not convinced to continue.**
- 4. Convinced but comfortable and complacent. Convinced, but not committed.**
- 5. Committed and produce varying degrees of fruit.**

**Mark 1:17, “Then Jesus said to them,
‘Follow Me, and I will make you become
fishers of men.’ ”**

**Luke 5:11, “So when they had brought their
boats to land, they forsook all and followed
Him.”**

A meme featuring a painting of Jesus and a modern man sitting on a park bench. The man on the left is wearing a dark jacket and jeans, while Jesus on the right is in traditional white robes. They are engaged in a conversation about social media. The background is a soft-focus outdoor scene with trees and a path.

FACEBOOK?

**NO, I LITERALLY
WANT YOU TO
FOLLOW ME.**

SO... TWITTER?

**I'M GOING TO START
OVER AGAIN AND YOU
CAN LET ME KNOW
WHERE I LOSE YOU.**

John 6:66, “From that time many of His disciples went back and walked with Him no more.

John 6:67, “Then Jesus said to the twelve, ‘Do y’all also want to go away?’ ”

John 6:68, “But Simon Peter answered Him, ‘Lord, to whom shall we go? You have the words of eternal life.

John 6:69, “ ‘Also we have come to believe and know that You are the Christ [Messiah], the Son of the living God.’ ”

Deut. 7:9, “Therefore know that the LORD your God, He is God, the faithful God who keeps covenant and mercy for a thousand generations with those who love Him and keep His commandments;” [Deut. 5:10]

1 John 5:2, “By this we know that we love the children of God, when we love God and keep His commandments.”

1 John 5:3, “For this is the love of [for] God, that we keep His commandments. And His commandments are not burdensome.”

Legalism is the idea that by our obedience to God's Word we merit God's blessing.

“I'm going to ... read my Bible, go to church, witness, give, be good, etc. so God will bless me.”

Legalism is the idea that by our obedience to God's Word we merit God's blessing.

Grace is recognizing God has already blessed us with every spiritual blessing. This is a potential, and our response to His grace enables us to develop the capacity to experience and enjoy His blessings.

“I'm going to do x because God has already richly blessed me and I need to learn about this and develop the capacity to enjoy what He has freely given me.”

Matt. 11:28, “Come to Me, all you who labor and are heavy laden, and I will give you rest. [Phase 1: Salvation, *Believe*]

Matt. 11:29, “Take My yoke upon you and learn from Me, for I am gentle and lowly in heart, and you will find rest for your souls.

Matt. 11:30, “For My yoke is easy and My burden is light.” [Phase 2: Sanctification, *Follow Me*]

Luke 9:23, “Then He said to them all, ‘If anyone desires to come after Me, let him deny himself, and take up his cross daily, and follow Me.’ ”

Mark 8:34, “When He had called the people to Himself, with His disciples also, He said to them, ‘Whoever desires to come after Me, let him deny himself, and take up his cross, and follow Me.’ ”

Luke 9:57–62: Four examples of disciple failure.

Example 1: Culture got in the way

Example 2: Comfort was more important, no self-denial. Luke 9:57–58

Example 3: Other commitments were a distraction. Not willing to submit and obey. Luke 9:59–60

Example 4: Other commitments were a distraction. Not willing to submit and obey. Luke 9:61–62

Luke 14:25, “Now great multitudes went with Him. And He turned and said to them,

Luke 14:26, “ ‘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.’ ”

Mal. 1:2, “ ‘I have loved you,’ says the LORD. ‘Yet you say, “In what way have You loved us?” Was not Esau Jacob’s brother?’ says the LORD. ‘Yet Jacob I have loved;

Mal. 1:3, “ ‘But Esau I have hated, and laid waste his mountains and his heritage for the jackals of the wilderness.’ ”

Rom. 9:13, “As it is written, ‘*Jacob I have loved, but Esau I have hated.*’ ”

Matt. 6:24, “No one can serve two masters; for either he will hate the one and love the other, or else he will be loyal to the one and despise the other. You cannot serve God and mammon.” (repeated in Luke 16:13)

Lesson One: Priorities in relationships

Luke 14:26, “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.”

Lesson Two: Choosing to submit to the authority of God's Word

Luke 14:27, “And whoever does not bear his cross and come after Me cannot be My disciple.”

Lesson Three: Are you willing to count the cost, and pay the price?

Luke 14:28, “For which of you, intending to build a tower, does not sit down first and count the cost, whether he has enough to finish it—

Luke 14:29, “lest, after he has laid the foundation, and is not able to finish, all who see it begin to mock him,

Luke 14:30, “saying, ‘This man began to build and was not able to finish.’ ”

Luke 14:31, “Or 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?”

Luke 14:32, “Or else, while the other is still a great way off, he sends a delegation and asks conditions of peace.”

Luke 14:33, “So likewise, whoever of you does not forsake all that he has cannot be My disciple.”