



## Lessons for Life

**The Great Cost Of Discipleship**  
**November 26-27, 2011**  
**Luke 14:25-35**  
**Pastor Damian Cirincione**

*“Large crowds were traveling with Jesus, and turning to them he said: “If anyone comes to me and does not hate his father and mother, his wife and children, his brothers and sisters—yes, even his own life—he cannot be my disciple. And anyone who does not carry his cross and follow me cannot be my disciple.*”

*Suppose one of you wants to build a tower. Will he not first sit down and estimate the cost to see if he has enough money to complete it? For if he lays the foundation and is not able to finish it, everyone who sees it will ridicule him, saying, ‘This fellow began to build and was not able to finish.’ Or suppose a king is about to go to war against another king. Will he not first sit down and consider whether he is able with then thousand men to oppose the one coming against him with twenty thousand? If he is not able, he will send a delegation while the other is still a long way off and will ask for terms of peace. In the same way, any of you who does not give up everything he has cannot be my disciple.*

*Salt is good, but if it loses its saltiness, how can it be made salty again? It is fit neither for the soil nor for the manure pile, it is thrown out. He who has ears to hear, let him hear.” Luke 14:25-35*

## **I. What PRIORITY Will I PLACE On Following Jesus?**

*"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." (v. 26)*

*The word "hate" here really has the meaning "to love less" or in other words "to prefer above...".*

*We are to prefer Christ above all else.*

*Matt. 10:37 helps to explain what Jesus meant when He said, "He who loves father or mother more than Me is not worthy of Me. And he who loves son or daughter more than Me is not worthy of Me."*

## **II. What PRICE Will I PAY In Following Jesus?**

*"And whoever does not bear his cross and come after Me cannot be My disciple." (v. 27)*

*Although salvation is free, it is not CHEAP.*

*Just as Jesus paid a price in order to save you, you have to pay a price in order to serve Him.*

*That is the point Jesus makes. "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." (v.28)*

*The Christian life is like a strong tower.*

- A tower of **WORK**.
- A tower of **WORSHIP**.
- A tower of **WITNESS**.
- A tower of **WARFARE**.

*Jesus gives another parable. "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?" (v.31)*

*The Christian life is a fight.*

*"Or else, while the other is still a great way off, he sends a delegation and asks conditions of peace." (v.32)*

*We have been called to be soldiers.*

### **III. What PASSION Will I PRESENT In Following Jesus?**

*"So likewise, whoever of you does not forsake all that he has cannot be My disciple."(v. 33)*

*A passion to pay the price. A passion to have the proper priorities. That is why Jesus finishes by saying, "Salt is good; but if the salt has lost its flavor, how shall it be seasoned? It is neither fit for the land nor for the dunghill, but men throw it out. He who has ears to hear, let him hear!" (v.34-35)*

*Just as salt makes you thirsty **FOR WATER**, the salt of the disciple ought to make someone else thirsty **FOR JESUS**.*