













THE PRICE IS RIGHT

TOOLBOX

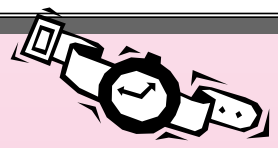
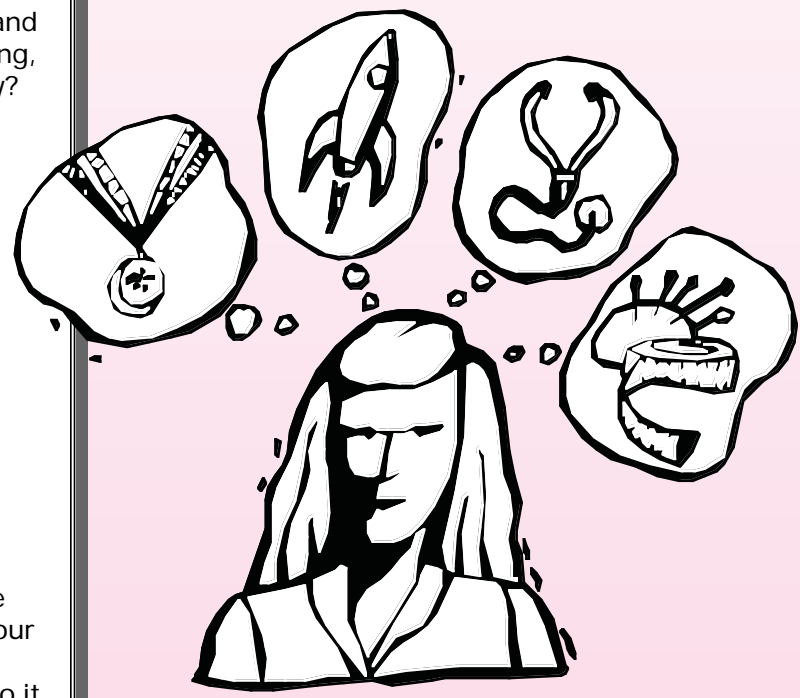
-  THINK
-  OBSERVE
-  CLOSE-UP
-  WRITE
-  DISCUSS
-  FEELINGS
-  BRAINSTORM
-  REFERENCE
-  PASSAGE
-  ARTICLE
-  BIG IDEA
-  CROSSROAD

  **EXPLORE**

If you could snap your fingers and become any one of the following, which would you choose? Why?

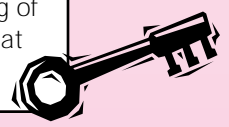
- Olympic gold medalist
- NBA athlete
- CEO of multi-million dollar corporation
- Fashion model
- Renowned author
- University professor
- Medical doctor
- Popular singer
- First astronaut to fly to Mars
- Fashion designer
- Attorney

If you could attain one of these positions by committing one hour a day for the next eight years, would you do it? Would you do it if it took 14 hours a day? What makes the difference?



KEY IDEA

Accomplishing anything of significance requires that we be intentional.



  **EVALUATE**

Which statement best expresses the level of your desire to be a disciple of Christ?

- A. I'm not interested at this time
- B. It'd be nice . . . but it's not necessary
- C. I'd like more information
- D. It's my highest aspiration
- E. I'm not sure I have the time

  **DISCUSS**

What might happen if a person wants to be a disciple, but doesn't know what's involved in being one?



CONTEXT

The events of Luke 14 occur during the final weeks of Jesus' life and ministry (Luke 9:51). Jesus is keenly aware of the fact that He will not be around much longer. The intensity of His teaching ministry is increasing; and although He called His twelve closest disciples many months before, He is still in the process of recruiting new disciples. He knows that committed disciples—not mere followers—will be required to change the world.

The text records that "large crowds were traveling with Jesus . . ." Jesus' followers had the benefit of walking with Him, observing the quality of His purpose, life and relationships. They had a track record of several months, and in some cases years, of association with Christ. As Jesus was on His way to the cross, He laid out three critical qualifications for being one of His disciples.

$$\frac{10\%}{100} \text{ OR } \frac{100\%}{10}$$



SOMETHING TO PONDER

If you were embarking on an enterprise of great significance, would you rather partner with one hundred people who are 10% committed, or ten people who are 100% committed? Why?



LUKE 14:25-35

²⁵ Large crowds were traveling with Jesus, and turning to them he said: ²⁶ "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. ²⁷ And anyone who does not carry his cross and follow me cannot be my disciple.

²⁸ "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? ²⁹ For if he lays the foundation and is not able to finish it, everyone who sees it will ridicule him, ³⁰ saying, 'This fellow began to build and was not able to finish.'

³¹ "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 ten thousand men to oppose the one coming against him with twenty thousand? ³² 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. ³³ In the same way, any of you who does not give up everything he has cannot be my disciple.

³⁴ "Salt is good, but if it loses its saltiness, how can it be made salty again? ³⁵ 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."



OBSERVATIONS

What does Jesus say are disqualifiers of discipleship?



DICTIONARY

In your own words, and from the context, define the following terms.

Disciple:

Hate:

Carry his cross:

Follow:

Give up:

Everything:

Stated positively in your own words, what are the qualifications of a disciple of Christ?



EXPLORE

Why do you think Jesus had/has such demanding requirements?

Why do you suppose Jesus chose these areas to be the proving ground for His disciples?



SUMMARY

What is the main idea that Jesus is expressing?



THOUGHT

"If we really understand what being Christian means—that this Christ, the living God, actually comes in to rule one's life—then everything must change: values, goals, priorities, desires and habits. If Christ's Lordship does not disrupt our own Lordship, then the reality of our conversion must be questioned."

—Chuck Colson, *Who Speaks for God?*, p. 11

TWO ILLUSTRATIONS

A builder:

"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.'"

A king:

"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 ten 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."



DISCUSS

Once the builder had a desire to construct a tower, what was his next step? Why?



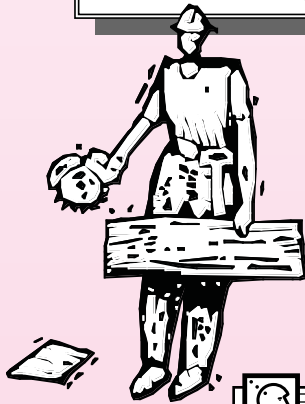
DISCUSS

Once the king had a desire to go to war, what was his next step? Why?



DISCUSS

What is the big idea of these two illustrations?



TO BE A DISCIPLE

What will it cost me?

How will I benefit now? In the future?

People:

Plans:

Possessions:

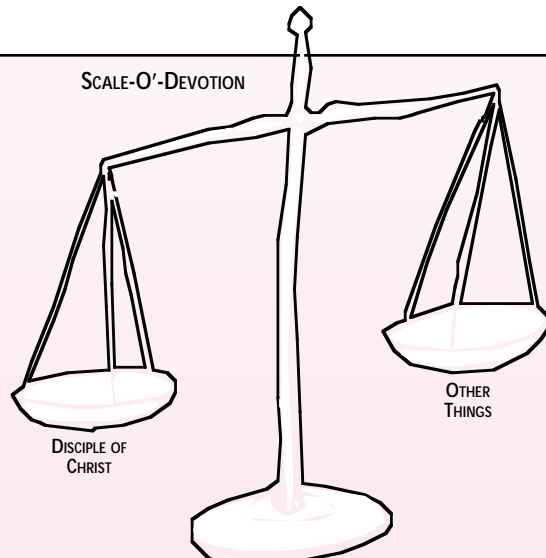


YOUR EXPERIENCE

In light of your desire to be a disciple, and the definition of what that means from this passage, what is your next step?

A life of discipleship is not so much a life of sacrifice but a life of exchange.

SCALE-O'-DEVOTION



REFLECT

The broad categories of people, plans and possessions cover virtually every area of life that competes with Christ for our devotion. As disciples, we must continually evaluate these areas in light of Christ's demands for discipleship.

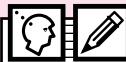


CONSIDER

Is there a relationship that hinders, obstructs, or takes precedence over your devotion to Christ?

Are you willing to submit/yield your dreams and plans for the future to the will of God?

Do you see yourself as *owner* of your possessions, or as *steward* of your possessions?



APPLICATION

What steps will you take to be intentional as you seek to follow Jesus as your highest priority?

Describe what your life might look like day to day if you make Jesus your highest priority.



CONCLUSION

Jesus concludes His discourse by saying, "He who has ears to hear, let him hear." In other words, Jesus respected His followers' individuality by giving them an uncompromising challenge, and allowing them to make the choice. Many of those who chose to become His disciples were probably among the group of 120 who responded to Jesus' challenge (Acts 1:15). Perhaps others made that choice later. Most certainly, some never made the choice at all. What will you do?



Unless otherwise indicated, all Scripture references are taken from the *New International Version*, ©1973, 1978, 1984 by the International Bible Society. Published by Zondervan Bible Publishers, Grand Rapids, Michigan.