

Week 5: TALK IT OVER with God

Daily Reflections on Scripture

Day One

Luke 14:33 *"So you cannot become my disciple without giving up everything you own."*

What truth is Jesus communicating to His disciples through this verse? What do think God is asking you to "give up" in this season? Talk it over with God and make a list of things that He brings to your mind.

Day Two

1 John 3:16: *"This is how we know what love is: Jesus Christ laid down his life for us. And we ought to lay down our lives for our brothers and sisters."*

Sacrifice is a topic that Jesus talks about a lot. Why is sacrifice important? Who do you sacrifice for? How is this experience pushing you forward in your faith?



Say What?

SHOCKING STATEMENTS FROM JESUS THAT
COULD TRANSFORM OUR LIVES



LAKELAND
COMMUNITY CHURCH

Day Three

Luke 14: 27-28 "And if you do not carry your own cross and follow me, you cannot be my disciple. But don't begin until you count the cost."

Have you experienced a time in your life when the cost of following Jesus was very high? Have you ever thought the cost was too much? Write about that below and talk it over with God. What truth does He want to remind you of today?

Day Four

Matthew 7:21-23 "Not everyone who says to me, 'Lord, Lord,' will enter the kingdom of heaven, but only the one who does the will of my Father who is in heaven. Many will say to me on that day, 'Lord, Lord, did we not prophesy in your name and in your name drive out demons and in your name perform many miracles?' Then I will tell them plainly, 'I never knew you. Away from me, you evildoers!'"

What an alarming passage! Jesus is interested in so much more than just what we "do for Him" or "did for Him." Do you ever find yourself relying on your actions to prove your love for God? Or feeling overly guilty about what you didn't do? Why or why not?

Day Five

John 15:12-15 "My command is this: Love each other as I have loved you. Greater love has no one than this: to lay down one's life for one's friends. You are my friends if you do what I command. I no longer call you servants, because a servant does not know his master's business. Instead, I have called you friends, for everything that I learned from my Father I have made known to you."

Wow, Jesus is our Friend! Think of the best friend you've ever had. What are the things that make someone a friend? List them below. Talk it over with God and ask about what next steps you can take together.

Day Six

Summarize below what God showed you this week through your Daily Reflections.

Week 5: TALK IT OVER with Others

A Conversation Guide for Small Groups

Small Groups at Lakeland exist to make disciples who make disciples in relational environments as we live out the four habits – accountability, shepherding, developing others, and on mission.

ICEBREAKER (optional): If you are at the zoo, what animal do you enjoy watching most? Why?

SCRIPTURE: This week's Talk It Over guide is based on Luke 14:25-34, *The Cost of Being a Disciple*. Please read this together in your Small Group before proceeding.

Watch Pastor Josh's Talk It Over video. Find this at www.lakeland.church under Messages/Small Group Resources.

DISCUSSION STARTER: Describe a time when you embarked on a journey, project or purchase that ended up costing you much more than you initially thought. Had you known the cost in its entirety, would you have still moved forward with that decision?

FOCUS QUESTIONS

In Luke 14:26, Jesus used the strong word **hate** in a comparative sense in order to show how great the difference must be between our love for Jesus and our love for everyone and everything else. "The greatest danger of idolatry comes not from what is bad, but from what is *good* – such as love in family relationships. The greatest threat to the *best* often comes from the *second best*" (David Guzik).

1. What is something you hold in priority over God? (i.e., time, commitments, finances, hobbies, relationships)
2. What is something *second best* to you that could easily slip in front of God?

3. "It is possible to be a follower of Jesus without being a disciple; to be a camp-follower without being a soldier" (William Barclay). What does this statement mean to you? Why do we try to convince ourselves that following Jesus doesn't include surrendering our life?
4. What has following Christ cost you? (i.e., divided families, friendships, employment)
5. Where has God brought you the win?
6. What is the cost of **not** following God?
7. In the video, Pastor Josh shared a time when God asked, "Am I enough if I took away your voice? Is relationship with me enough? Or do you love the gifts more than the Giver of the gifts?" How would you answer these questions today if God took away a gift He had given you?

Close in prayer. Consider praying in smaller groups or pairs.

Small Group Prayer Requests

Notes from the Weekend Message
May 18 & 19, 2019

Do you want to use your writing gifts to help make disciples of Jesus? Join our Writing Team! Take your next step by contacting Pastor Jeff Tillson at jeff@lakeland.church