

## **Discipleship - Session 15**

### **Continue the 6 Marks Of A True Disciple Mark # 3 of a true disciple. - FORSAKING ALL**

Things we will cover this lesson:

1. Understand the Biblical meaning of “*forsaking all.*”
2. The realization that Jesus is always going to make you examine your own heart.
3. Why does God bless us financially?
4. Are we willing to pay the price to be Jesus’ disciple?

Assignment:

1. Continue ALONE prayer log. (One day -- 1/2 hour.)
2. Communing Word log.
3. Pray 2 Peter 1:1-15 into your life.
4. Pray Marks 1 - 3 into your life.
5. Also go over the material you learned this session. Look up all the scriptures. Put this lesson to practice in your daily life.

## Mark # 3 of a True Disciple - Forsaking All Luke 14:33

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

The Greek word translated by “forsake all” means to separate one’s self from, to take leave of, to bid farewell to, to renounce, to forsake. It is written in the Greek language in what is known as the middle voice. The middle voice in the Greek language indicates the subject performing an action upon himself or for his own benefit. Example: “The boy groomed himself.” Therefore, the implication is that this is something that a person does to themselves. You must do this! Someone else is not going to do it for you. This is action that a person decides to do himself.

Therefore to be Jesus’ disciple, you yourself are going to have to come to the place where you are willing to forsake all that you have. Notice that the verse said *all that he has*. Thus the major thought has to do with our possessions and our positions. Simply stated, Jesus is saying that we must never let our possessions or our positions come before Him. He must be in first place in our lives. Again this is a simple statement of fact. If we do not do this, then we will be disciples of our possessions or of our positions. We will let the desires for more possessions dictate our lives. Or we will let our position dictate our lives. If we are going to be Jesus’ disciple, then we can only follow Him!

The context of the fourteenth chapter of Luke makes it clear that our Lord is talking about total commitment to Him. Are we willing to **forsake ALL** in order to be His disciple?

Read now Luke 14:15-35. Note that it was the well off who made excuses. The poor, maimed, lame, and blind did not make excuses. They did not have anything much to forsake so they gladly came at the master’s invitation. It is people with possessions and/or positions that seem to have the most trouble following the Lord. Also according to Luke 14, if we do not forsake all, we will end up being like the man who failed to finish his tower or the king who lost the war. Finally, if we do not forsake all, we will be like salt that loses its flavor.

A good example of this is found in Luke 9:57-62.

Luke 9:57-62 <sup>57</sup> Now it happened as they journeyed on the road, *that* someone said to Him, “Lord, I will follow You wherever You go.” <sup>58</sup> And Jesus said to him, “Foxes have holes and birds of the air *have* nests, but the Son of Man has nowhere to lay *His* head.” <sup>59</sup> Then He said to another, “Follow Me.” But he said, “Lord, let me first go and bury my father.” <sup>60</sup> Jesus said to him, “Let the dead bury their own dead, but you go and preach the kingdom of God.” <sup>61</sup> And another also said, “Lord, I will follow You, but let me first go *and* bid them farewell who are at my house.” <sup>62</sup> But Jesus said to him, “No one, having put his hand to the plow, and looking back, is fit for the kingdom of God.” (NKJV)

The first man spoke that he was willing, but Jesus made him examine whether or not he was really sincere by expressing that the way may be quite difficult.

The second man was called by Jesus, but He offered an excuse. Jesus makes what seems to be a very non-sensitive statement. In reality the man's father is not yet dead or he would be at the funeral and not here with Jesus. He is saying he will follow Jesus after his father dies whenever that is. Now what Jesus says makes sense.

The third man says he will follow, but he needs to first go and tell his relatives farewell. Jesus does not necessarily rebuke him. Jesus is just making a statement of fact. For this third person, what he is about to do could be right or it could be wrong. It is all according to the motive of his heart.

*If you are going to be a disciple of Jesus, be prepared for the fact that Jesus will **always** make you examine your motives. He will make you look into your own heart until you see what He sees. He loves you that much.*

Finally let us talk about our treasures. Note: Our scripture text said “*all that **he has**.*”

Where is your treasure? Read Matthew 6:19-21.

We must ask ourselves the question, “Why has God blessed us financially? For ourselves only?” Read carefully the following scriptures:

1 Timothy 6:7-12

1 Timothy 6:17-19

Acts 2:44-45

2 Corinthians 8:13-15

1 John 3:16-17

The following verse puts it all in proper perspective:

Luke 16:11 <sup>11</sup>“Therefore if you have not been faithful in the unrighteous mammon, who will commit to your trust the true *riches*? (NKJV)

If we cannot properly use the material substance that God has given us (money, etc.), how can we expect God to commit to us the true riches of life (spiritual wisdom, spiritual gifts, etc.).

Now read Malachi 3:8-10. Why does God want to give you **more** than you can handle? So you can give into the Kingdom of God abundantly. As God prospers a man abundantly, that man needs to set himself a limit and give all the rest into the kingdom.

With all the above in mind, now read Mark 10:17-27.

### **Very Important: Read Philippians 3:8!**

Philippians 3:8 <sup>8</sup>Yet indeed I also count **all things loss** for the excellence of the knowledge of Christ Jesus my Lord, for whom I have suffered the **loss of all things**, and **count them as rubbish**, that I may gain Christ (NKJV)

Do you really want to know Christ? Paul certainly did. Paul knew that “things” could keep him away from this excellent knowledge. He would have no part of anything that would do that. To Paul “all things” became rubbish (“dung” in the KJV) if it meant keeping him from knowing Christ. Wise is the person who makes the same decision.

In closing if you have never been taught about tithing, now is the time to learn. Ask the person who is discipling you to teach you this wonderful truth from the Word of God.

**SUMMATION STATEMENT: Material possessions and notable positions have distracted many disciples of Jesus into a shallow life they erroneously saw as being big and meaningful. Whistles, bells, tin foil, and accolades of men are very attracting. But true life can only be found in Jesus. If we will forsake all we have, we will find all He is.**