

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

“The Portrait of a Disciple - Deeper”

Luke 14:26-33



JASON'S MAIN POINTS:

Love God more than anyone.

Deny yourself and take up your cross and follow Jesus.

Forsake all that you have.

Count the cost.

MORE IMPORTANT POINTS:

Discipleship is not an option. And it is costly—very costly. (But the cost is well worth the benefits it gives.)

Where is God calling you to serve at Illuminate? Step up and get to work.

READ: Matthew 10:34-35; 28:18-20; Mark 10:17-22;
Luke 9:9:23; 14:26-33; Colossians 1:28

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS:

1. Early on, Jason said, “*Deeper is all about becoming a disciple of Jesus.*”

- How would you restate this in your own words?
- After listening to the message, what does it really mean to be a disciple of Jesus?
- What is the both the process and ultimate goal of discipleship? (Look it up in Colossians 1:28, and Romans 8:28-30)
- What do you think being conformed to the image of Christ looks like in our culture today?

2. Jason drew out at least four requirements for anyone who would be a disciple of Jesus. Read the passages again and then interact on the following questions:

- A disciple must love God more than anyone (Luke 14:26; Matthew 10:34-35). Jesus said in Luke 14:26) that our love for our own family members must, in comparison to our love for Jesus, look like hate. Is that too strong a statement? What is Jesus driving at? Can you honestly say you love Jesus more than anyone in your family—your spouse, your children, etc.? How could our care for our family get in the way of deep discipleship?
- Deny yourself and take up your cross every day and follow Jesus (Luke 9:23; 14:27). Jason said that “the greatest barrier to discovering all that God has for us is our preoccupation with ourselves.”

This seems like a bitter pill to swallow, but do you think Jason is right? On a scale of 0-10, 0 being total self denial, where do you think you are with self-preoccupation? Why? What do you think you need to do about it to move towards 0? What is the cross we need to bear daily?

- Forsake all that you have (Luke 14:33). Jason said, “*Until I recognize that everything I have belongs to Jesus Christ, I am not his disciple.*” Does this mean we all need to sell all our goods on Offer Up and live a life of voluntary poverty? What does it mean, then for those of us who are among the top 2% of the world’s richest? How does Mark 10:17-22 help our understanding of this requirement?
- Count the cost (Luke 9:57-58; 14:2). Jason quoted Billy Graham, “*Salvation is free, but discipleship costs everything we have.*” How do you respond to this quote? What might it be saying about your spiritual life? What would it cost you today to make a decision to go deeper in your life of being a disciple? What does Jason’s comment, “*It costs to follow Jesus Christ, but it costs more not to,*” say to you?

3. Let’s put shoes on these feet as we take to the streets...Where do you sense God is calling you RIGHT NOW to deepen your walk as a disciple, and how can you bring forth evidence of that deeper calling by the ways you serve at Illuminate? Are you willing to mentor or disciple others even as you are being disciplined? Are you willing to serve the smelly people on the streets with a warm meal when they are starving? Can you help with the ministry we have to our children or youth—two quickly growing parts of our church family? Where is God calling you to pitch in and help out? It’s not a commitment until you sign up...