

But don't begin until you count the cost. For who would begin construction of a building without first calculating the cost to see if there is enough money to finish it? Luke 14:28 (NLT)

1. Following Jesus may my life.

As they were walking along, someone said to Jesus, "I will follow you wherever you go." But Jesus replied, "Foxes have dens to live in, and birds have nests, but the Son of Man has no place even to lay his head." Luke 9:57-58 (NLT)

But now you must be holy in everything you do, just as God who chose you is holy. For the Scriptures say, "You must be holy because I am holy." 1 Peter 1:15-16 (NLT)

If you love me, obey my commandments. John 14:15 (NLT)

2. Following Jesus means I respond .

He said to another person, "Come, follow me." The man agreed, but he said, "Lord, first let me return home and bury my father." But Jesus told him, "Let the dead bury their own dead! Your duty is to go and preach about the Kingdom of God."

Luke 9:59-60 (NLT)

For God says, "At just the right time, I heard you. On the day of salvation, I helped you." Indeed, the "right time" is now. Today is the day of salvation. 2 Corinthians 6:2 (NLT)

3. Following Jesus may _____ me.

Another said, "Yes, Lord, I will follow you, but first let me say good-bye to my family." But Jesus told him, "Anyone who puts a hand to the plow and then looks back is not fit for the Kingdom of God." Luke 9:61-62 (NLT)

"Do you think I have come to bring peace to the earth? No, I have come to divide people against each other! From now on families will be split apart, three in favor of me, and two against - or two in favor and three against. 'Father will be divided against son and son against father; mother against daughter and daughter against mother; and mother-in-law against daughter-in-law and daughter-in-law against mother-in-law.'" Luke 12:51-53 (NLT)



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1. Following Jesus may **COMPLICATE** my life.

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2. Following Jesus means I respond NOW.

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For God says, "At just the right time, I heard you. On the day of salvation, I helped you." Indeed, the "right time" is now. Today is the day of salvation. 2 Corinthians 6:2 (NLT)

3. Following Jesus may SEPARATE me.

Another said, "Yes, Lord, I will follow you, but first let me say good-bye to my family." But Jesus told him, "Anyone who puts a hand to the plow and then looks back is not fit for the Kingdom of God." Luke 9:61-62 (NLT)

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[CONNECT]

Have you ever started a project and then realized you were in way over your head? Share what that was like.

[ENGAGE]

What impacted you the most personally from the message?

[GROW]

- Read Luke 14:28. How does the metaphor of a builder calculating the cost before construction give you a peek into the nature of discipleship?
- How might the process of counting the cost of discipleship affect someone's decision to follow Jesus? Think back on your own life; what are the 'costs' you have encountered in your commitment to follow Jesus? How do you feel about these costs?
- Read Luke 9:61-62, what is Jesus saying about the commitment required when we decide to follow Him?
- According to 2 Corinthians 6:2, when is the right time to respond to God's call? Why does this passage emphasize the urgency of responding to God's call?
- Can you think of any areas in your life where you might be hesitating in your obedience to Christ? What steps can you take to address this?

[LEAD (YOURSELF)]

What is one decision you have been putting off that you know God is calling you to make? How can you take action on it this week?