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## WARM UP

Who has been the most influential person in your life that you've never met personally?

## WORD

Read **Luke 14:26-33**

In this passage, Jesus lays out the extreme cost it takes to be called a disciple. What does it take to be a disciple of Jesus? The following are two of many major factors that are prerequisites for any disciple of Christ.

## NOTES

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## 1 A disciple lays it all down

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*“If anyone comes to me and does not hate his own father and mother and wife and children and brothers and sisters, yes, and even his own life, he cannot be my disciple. Whoever does not bear his own cross and come after me cannot be my disciple.”*

**Luke 14:26-27** (ESV)

A disciple of Christ sees the dearest of earthly relationships as blessings from God, not as gods themselves. Jesus, fully knowing that the aforementioned relationships are that which are dearest to all, pulls no punches in telling the great crowd that is gathered to hear him, that there is no relationship more important than the one we have with him. In fact, our love for our family and loved ones has to be such a poor second to Christ, that it looks like hate in comparison to the love we have for Christ.

- Is Jesus the LORD of all your relationships?
  - In what way are we able to glorify God in relationships?
  - Is God your priority? If he is, what comes second, and how does it compare to God as your first? If he isn't, what is your priority, and why?
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## 2 A disciple counts the cost

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*For which of you, desiring to build a tower, does not first sit down and count the cost, whether he has enough to complete it? Otherwise, when*

*he has laid a foundation and is not able to finish, all who see it begin to mock him, saying, ‘This man began to build and was not able to finish.’”*

**Luke 14:28-30** (ESV)

*So therefore, any one of you who does not renounce all that he has cannot be my disciple.*

**Luke 14:33** (ESV)

Have you ever started something major, but have not been able to finish it after a long time? A disciple counts the cost of what it will take to finish the race that God has called him or her to, and knows that they will finish well as they are empowered by the grace of Christ to overcome every obstacle or hinderance that will stand in their way.

- What does it mean to “renounce all” that we have?
  - Have you taken time to “count the cost” of being a disciple of Christ? Are you willing to pay the cost of your life to follow Jesus?
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## PRAYER

- Pray that Jesus Christ will give us the grace to renounce all that tries to take the place of Jesus as the God of our lives.
- Pray that God would lead us to be disciples who model for others what it means to lay our lives down to follow Christ wholeheartedly.