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WARM UP

If you could follow anyone around the world for a day, who would it be and why?

WORD

Read [Luke 14:25-35](#)

The word, *Disciple*, appears in the Bible over 250 times, as opposed to the word, *Christian*, which appears a grand total of 3 times. It would therefore seem that the word used to describe the followers of Christ is: disciple. Knowing this, one who desires to follow Jesus must ask the question: "What is a disciple?"

NOTES

1 OWNER

²⁵Now great crowds accompanied him, and he turned and said to them, ²⁶"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. ²⁷Whoever does not bear his own cross and come after me cannot be my disciple.

[Luke 14:25-27](#) (ESV)

Jesus is saying that there is no point comparing the love you might have for Him and the love you might have for family members. This is tested when our family or loved ones may take a stance against something the Bible might say. There is no comparison between our allegiance to God and our love for our family. A disciple is one who grows in Christ as they follow Him. It is impossible to serve two masters.

- Have you ever wrestled between advice of well-meaning friends and relatives, and what the Bible says? Can you describe it? How was it resolved?

2 FINISHER

²⁸For which of you, desiring to build a tower, does not first sit down and count the cost, whether he has enough to complete it? ²⁹Otherwise, 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 14:28-29](#) (ESV)

The mark of a disciple is one who plans ahead and finishes what they start, leaving no room for ridicule. The great thing about Jesus is that He Himself is an example of finishing His mission. Now, through the Holy Spirit, He helps us to complete what we start.

- Have you ever regretted starting something important that you didn't finish? What caused you to stop?
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3 RENOUNCER

³¹Or what king, going out to encounter another king in war, will not sit down first and deliberate whether he is able with ten thousand to meet him who comes against him with twenty thousand? ³²And if not, while the other is yet a great way off, he sends a delegation and asks for terms of peace. ³³So therefore, any one of you who does not renounce all that he has cannot be my disciple.

[Luke 14:31-33](#) (ESV)

- Have you renounced everything that causes you to be hindered from God's plan for your life? If not, would you like to?

4 CHANGE AGENT

³⁴"Salt is good, but if salt has lost its taste, how shall its saltiness be restored? ³⁵It is of no use either for the soil or for the manure pile. It is thrown away. He who has ears to hear, let him hear."

[Luke 14:34-35](#) (ESV)

To make Jesus known in your life is the mark of a disciple. Like salt, our lives should stand out (bring flavour), bring healing, help people grip onto the Lord, and bring preservation for people to last the distance in their walk with God. In other words, it is the disciples' "saltiness" that enables them to bring change to their environment.

- What practical ways can you help bring change into the lives of others by being a disciple of Christ?

PRAYER

- If you have not received Christ as the One who calls the shots in your life, would you like to pray to become a disciple today?
- If you are a follower of Christ, pray that God would show you how to be a light to those around you.
- Make a list and pray for those around you that do not yet know Christ. Pray that they would encounter His love and grace in the Gospel.