

Getting Started

1. What is something difficult that you don't want to do? What's keeping you from doing it?
2. What have you given up to follow Jesus? Is there anything you wouldn't give up? Explain.
3. Is Jesus trying to turn people away from following him? Should the Church try to turn people away from following Christ?
4. What insight, principle, or observation from this weekend's sermon did you find to be most helpful, eye-opening, or troubling? Explain.

Digging Deeper

5. Heidelberg Catechism Q&A 82:

Q. Should those be admitted to the Lord's Supper who show by what they profess and how they live that they are unbelieving and ungodly?

A. No, that would dishonor God's covenant and bring down God's wrath upon the entire congregation.¹ Therefore, according to the instruction of Christ and his apostles, the Christian church is duty-bound to exclude such people, by the official use of the keys of the kingdom, until they reform their lives.

¹ 1 Cor. 11:17-32; Ps. 50:14-16; Isa. 1:11-17

Is it right for the church to exclude people from the Lord's Supper who say they believe even if their lives do not match up to scripture?

6. Matthew 10:34-39 is very similar to Luke 14:25-35. Is the meaning the same?
7. James and John make a bold request of Jesus in Mark 10:35-38. Jesus asks them if they are able to drink the cup he will drink and be baptized the baptism with which he is baptized. What does he mean by drink the cup and be baptized? Are you willing to do it?
8. Luke 9:57-62 is another example of a challenging teaching from Jesus. What is the point of this passage?

Application

9. What sacrifices have you made to follow Jesus? Have you considered the full implications of following Jesus? The cost of discipleship is far greater than we often imagine and involves some hard decisions. Consider the full cost of discipleship and decide whether or not you're going to follow Jesus.

Questions

February 8 – Exodus 28-29 – Why do Christians not have priests like the Israelites did? Hint: See Hebrews 8:1-7.

February 9 – Exodus 30-32 – God has brought the Israelites out of Egyptian slavery, through the Red Sea, given them manna and water, and now the people are making a false God. Why do they turn so quickly from God?

February 10 – Exodus 33-35 – When God asks the Israelites they give abundantly of what they have; not just their possessions, but also their skills. What could the Church could accomplish if we all worked in this manner?

February 11 – Exodus 36-38 – Why is the top of the ark called the mercy seat and why are there 2 angels there?

February 12 – Exodus 39-40 – Would you be excited or frightened to have the presence of Lord with you in the Tabernacle?

February 13 – Leviticus 1-4 – Why does God make provisions for so many different types of offerings?

February 14 – Leviticus 5-7 – God says that people who sin in certain ways should be cut off from the people of Israel, why? Does this seem excessive?

Ross Community Reformed Church

Pastor Shawn Gerbers · February 7th, 2016

The Gospel According to Luke

“The Cost of Discipleship”

Now great crowds accompanied him, and he turned and said to them, “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 14:25-27

- **As disciples we must be willing to _____ that which is very _____ and _____ that which is very _____.**
- **Jesus asks us to consider the _____ of _____.**
- **We are warned against the _____ our _____ and therefore our _____.**

Topics: Discipleship, Difficulties