

1. **GOD LOVES YOU** and wants you to have **eternal life with Him**.

John 3:16 "For God so loved the world, that He gave His only begotten Son, that whoever believes in Him should not perish, but have eternal life."

But most people aren't experiencing a meaningful life and aren't sure that they have eternal life because...

2. Man has a **SIN problem** which **SEPARATES** him from GOD. Every one has sinned.

Romans 3:23 "for all have sinned and fall short of the glory of God"

3. The **good news** is that **JESUS CHRIST** is God's **solution** to your sin problem. He is the **ONLY way** to heaven.

1 Peter 3:18 "For Christ also died for sins once and for all, the just for the unjust, in order that He might bring us to God..."

4. Therefore you must **REPENT** of your sins and place your **FAITH** in **JESUS alone** to **save** you.

Ephesians 2:8-9 "For by grace you have been saved through faith; and that not of yourselves, it is the GIFT OF GOD; not as a result of works, that no one should boast."

5. Upon believing and receiving Jesus, you have a **NEW LIFE** with complete assurance of **SALVATION**.

1 John 5:13 "I write these things to you who believe in the name of the Son of God so that you may know that you have eternal life."

Discipleship: A Radical Choice

(Luke 14:25-33)
Last week's message

Luke begins by describing that *Large crowds were traveling with Jesus* (v. 25a). They were not all true disciples. They were following Jesus for various reasons: to hear his teachings, to see his miracles, to be fed, or to be healed. It is no different today; people come to church for various reasons. Perhaps coming to church is part of religious tradition or upbringing. Some people come to listen to sermons and learn how they can become successful, how to overcome stress, or how to have a happy marriage.

In Matthew 7:21, Jesus says: *"Not everyone who says to me, 'Lord, Lord,' will enter the kingdom of heaven, but the one who does the will of my Father who is in heaven."* These words invite us to examine if we are true disciples of Jesus or not. Who is his true disciple? What does it mean to follow him?

1. Following Jesus involves making a deliberate and thoughtful choice. (vv. 28-33)

Jesus used two simple stories to illustrate that following him requires a deliberate and thoughtful choice. First, he cited the parable of the builder of a tower. The builder must sit down and calculate the cost, to make sure that he is able to complete the tower. Calculating the cost involves deliberation, and this is how it is in following Jesus. One must use his or her mind. A decision to follow Jesus that is anchored merely on feelings and without thinking will not take a person far in the faith journey, because feelings come and go. To follow Jesus involves both mind and heart. You have to sit down and deliberate on your own. Examine carefully if your choice to follow Jesus is not on account of others following him.

The second parable refers to a king who is about to go to war with another. He sits down and thoughtfully considers whether to go to war or send a delegation and ask for terms of peace. Again, Jesus was pointing out the need to deliberate.

2. Following Jesus involves placing Jesus first before other relationships. (vv. 25-27)

Jesus said: *"If anyone comes to me and does not hate father and mother, wife and children, brothers and sisters—yes, even their own life—such a person cannot be my disciple"* (v. 26). This does not mean that we should hate our family to become true followers of Jesus. (Jesus taught his disciples to love one another and to love their enemies.) What Jesus was saying here is that love for him must be above love for EVERYONE else in life including our own family. We love Jesus more than we love our parents, our spouse, and our children.

Some parents prioritize their children's Sunday morning soccer games over worship services. Parents, do your decisions reflect a love for God that surpasses your love for your children? Singles, if Jesus is first in your life, then you will make the deliberate decision not to entertain the idea of marrying a non-believer (2 Cor 6:14).

3. Following Jesus involves abandoning love of money and possessions. (v. 33)

"So therefore, any one of you who does not renounce all that he has cannot be my disciple" (v. 33). The principle here is similar to the second, except that this relates to possessions. Jesus is to be first not just above everyone else but EVERYTHING else in life!

We do not have to leave our jobs, give up our homes and possessions, and go somewhere to live in obscurity like monks in a monastery. What the Bible warns us against is the love of money. Jesus touched on the subject of possessions in Matthew 6:19-21. Are we storing up for ourselves "treasures on earth" or "treasures in heaven"? Are we cheerful in the giving of our tithes and offerings? Are we helping those who are in need? Generous and cheerful giving is a mark of a true disciple, for it demonstrates that his allegiance is only to God, not money.

JOIN US!

A Discipleship Group or D-Group is a great opportunity to meet regularly with a small group of people from CCF to study the bible, pray and support each other. D-Groups meet regularly in different parts of the Lower Mainland. Connect with us at contact@ccfvancouver.org and we will find a group for you.

Praise and Worship Team

... is looking for musician (instruments) volunteers to join

our team. If you can play an instrument, and are available to serve with the Praise and Worship Team at least once a month, we'd love to hear from you. Email us at contact@ccfvancouver.org.

An Invitation to Share Your Story

Would you like to encourage one another, and give honor and glory to God through your personal testimony? Email Bryan Pinpin at ebpinpin@gmail.com.



Happy Father's Day

A righteous man who walks in his integrity—
How blessed are his sons after him.
-Proverbs 20:7 (NASB)



TITHES AND OFFERINGS

Please use CCF tithe envelopes (available at usher's table) for ALL tithes, offerings and donations. Our tithe box is located at the usher's table.

If you're giving via cheque, please write it to CCF Vancouver.

You can now give ONLINE!! Just go to www.ccfvancouver.org/give/ to donate. Thank you.



ORDER OF SERVICE

- Call to worship
- Praise and worship
- Children dismissal
- Announcements
- Sermon
- Response song
- Benediction



Name _____ Phone/Email _____

Prayer Request/Answered Prayer

Please drop in tithe boxes