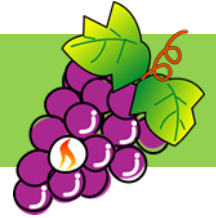




## LIFE GROUP NOTES

Week Beginning: 16th July 2023



### Luke 14:25-35 Counting The Cost

#### Warm Up

What is your favourite idiom? (phrase that doesn't mean what the words actually say)

Eg: "I could eat a horse," "I could sleep on a washing line," "The light is on but no one is home."

#### Background and context

This passage comes in the middle of a series of episodes or incidents in which Jesus teaches about the Kingdom of God including parables about discipleship. As always parables need to be interpreted and understood in the light of the big picture of Jesus' death and resurrection.

#### Thinking it through: Main discussion/activity



**READ LUKE 14:25-35** What are the surprising things in the passage? What is new? What don't you really understand? This could be a time to discuss and share reflections and ideas on the passage or watch a Bible project type video that helps explain things.

1. **look at v26.** Why does this seem shocking to many people today?
2. Why might loving Jesus and putting Him first be better for our families?
3. In what ways did Jesus put YOUR needs above His own?
4. **Look at v27.** What does it mean to "take up your cross"?
5. Jesus was obedient to God, even to His death. How are we demonstrating our obedience to Jesus? What struggles do we face as part of our walk with Jesus?
6. Can you think of examples of Christians who have sacrificed a great deal to be obedient?
7. **Look at v28-33.** What do these two parables teach us about the cost of discipleship?
8. **Look at v 34-35.** Why is this a severe warning to any disciple? What should we learn from it?

#### Growing in discipleship: Practical application



9. How is loving Jesus the most, a good way to demonstrate the Gospel to our families?
10. We are called to be like Jesus, not just know about Him. What would loving Jesus more, bearing the cost and persevering, look like for you this week?



#### Try to leave 15-20 mins to talk about prayer needs of the group and to pray.

We want to encourage the development of prayer, to help everyone grow in confidence in praying. There are many creative ways of praying together: writing prayers, using candles as a focus, reading prayers or praying for each other in pairs.