

It Started with Twelve #5
The Price of Discipleship

Word

Scripture Reference

Luke 9:23-27

Sermon Outline

1. The Price of Self-Denial (v. 23-25)
2. The Price of a Lifelong Responsibility (v. 23)
3. The Price of Identifying with Christ (v. 23, 26-27)

Discussion Questions

1. Is there anything you bought that you think was really worth it? Why do you think so?
2. Read Luke 9:23-27. Our salvation cost Jesus His life. Following Him costs us something as well. Self-denial is a price of being a disciple. It means putting away our own desires and ambitions in order to live for Him. What are some things you wanted in your life but you have to put aside because you are a follower of Christ? In your honest assessment, how are you faring? Do you think it's worth it?
3. Do you know somebody— a celebrity or anyone you know who seemed to have gained the whole world yet wasted or forfeited their very self? What does their experience tell us? From a Christian perspective, what does it mean to “lose now and gain later” or the other way around?
4. Our Lord Jesus also said in verse 23 that following Him requires the price of a lifelong responsibility. How would you respond to the fact that to follow Him means you have to carry the cross on a daily basis? What are the crosses that you have had to bear as His follower? How are you handling it and what keeps you going? What does this statement mean for you: “Do not talk to me about the heavy price of discipleship until you have counted the cost of your salvation.”?
5. Could you give an example of what you can't do because of your relationship with the Lord? What are some practical things you can do when life becomes overwhelming?

6. Being a disciple of Jesus Christ also means that we have to pay the price of identifying with Him. When were you baptized? How did you understand baptism then? Do you have a problem in admitting to anyone that you are a Christian? If so, why?
7. As a Christian, you need to live your life in that identification not only on Sunday, but each day of the week. What kind of identity or testimony are you projecting to others, especially to non-Christian loved ones, friends, neighbors or co-workers?
8. It seems that a lot of Christians are concerned about what blessings they can get from God and forget that doing something for Him is already a blessing. Please share with the group how being Christ's disciple has blessed your life, even when you paid the price of self-denial, taking up His cross daily and identifying with Him.

Walk

"There are no crown-wearers in heaven who are not cross-bearers on earth"
– Charles H. Spurgeon

Is there a specific situation you foresee this week that you should be more conscious of your identity as a Christian? What is your prayer to enable you to really live for Him?

Worship & Prayer

Join the Corporate Prayer Time every Friday, 7:15-8:00pm at the Balcony

- Pray for a deeper, more intimate, personal relationship with God.
- Pray for the concerns of each member of your group.
- Pray for the on-going preparations for the 45th Anniversary play & musical.
- Pray for spiritual blessings the couples ministry event this Sunday.
- Pray for wisdom and strength for those involved in preparations for the church's summer and anniversary activities.
- Pray for wisdom, good health and safe trip for Dr(s). Paul and Christine Tan and the rest of the Bible Land pilgrims.
- Pray for healing of Linda Sy-Chin, EB, HT, Lucina Tan, Jacqueson Keh, Benito Tan.
- Pray for comfort, healing, and provision for cancer patients: Evelyn Yee, Susie Yu, Segundo Yu, Nenita Ong, SL.