

The Cost of Following Jesus

Belief and Trust

Lesson 11

Introduction

The death of John the Baptist affected Jesus deeply. Their lives were intertwined from birth in fulfilling God's plan of salvation. But there was still work for the Father that Jesus must do. For His time had not yet come.

Jesus Warns His disciples of What is to Come

1. What was the reaction of Herod Antipas, ruler of Galilee, to the news that Jesus was performing many miracles? (Luke 9:7-9)
2. After some time in prayer, Jesus asked His disciples, "*Who do people say that I am?*" What was their answer? (Luke 9:18, 19)
3. Then Jesus asked The Twelve, "*Who do you say I am?*" What was Peter's answer? (Luke 9:20)
4. Although Peter had answered correctly, Jesus gave them a reality check. What did He tell His disciples? (Luke (9:21-22)
5. In light of John's death, what did Jesus tell the crowd following Him it would cost to be His disciples? (Luke 9:23)

Reflect

6. What do you think Jesus was saying that it would cost to follow Him?
7. In your own words, summarize the additional warning Jesus gave to this crowd? (Luke 9:24-26)

8. What encouragement did He leave them with? (Luke 9:27)
9. Eight days later, Peter, James and John saw that fulfilled as they witnessed Jesus in His former glory. What was the topic of discussion between Moses, Elijah and Jesus? (Luke 9:30, 31)
10. Somewhere around the summer of 29 A.D., according to Luke 9:51:
 - What did Jesus do?
 - Why?

Jesus Final Teachings

Jesus and His disciples continued to travel around the countryside sharing the good news of the Kingdom of God. But in the Spring of 30 A.D., it was time of Jesus to fulfilled God's purpose. (John 13:1) Jesus' final teachings to His disciples took place during the "Last Supper" (Passover Seder) and are recorded in John chapters 13 - 16. With His disciples reclining at the table with Him, Jesus warned them of the dangers that lay ahead.

11. How did Jesus show the full extent of His love to His disciples? (John 13:3-5)

Reflect

12. Although this scene is familiar, please reflect and then comment on this event in light of John 13:1, 2.
13. During the Seder, Jesus told the disciples that one of them would betray Him and that even Peter would deny knowing Him before the next morning. Try to imagine the heaviness in that room. What did Jesus say to lift their spirits? (John 14:1-2)
14. How did Jesus answer Thomas when he asked to show them the way? (John 14:5, 6)

15. Then Philip asked Jesus to reveal the Father to them, to which Jesus replied, "Anyone who has seen Me has seen the Father. I am in the Father and the Father is in Me." (John 14:9, 10) What did Jesus ask them to do? (John 14:11, 12)

16. Jesus also asked for them to show their love for Him by keeping His commandments. What did He promise them?
 - John 14:16, 17

 - John 14:19

 - John 14:26

 - John 14:27

17. The time had finally come. As Jesus and the disciples walked toward the place of betrayal, Jesus had another important lesson for them to learn. In this final parable recorded in John 15:1-7, what urgent lesson did He want them to take to heart?

18. What is the sign of a true disciple of Jesus? (John 15:8)

19. What command did Jesus give at this time and why? (John 15:12) also see John 13:34, 35
To love one another as Jesus had loved them

20. How did Jesus say that could be measured? (John 15:13)
21. Knowing that was exactly what He was about to do in just a few hours, Jesus reminded the disciples that they were not His slaves but His friends. What else did Jesus remind them? (John 15:16, 17)

Reflect

22. Jesus instructed His disciples to believe in Him and to abide in Him. What does it mean to you to "abide in Christ?"

Putting Feet to the Cost of Being a Follower of Jesus

Jesus said that anyone who puts self interest and the things of this world ahead of Him, is not His disciple. Think about those words and then take a good look at your life.

- What is the priority of your life?
- Are you pursuing your relationship with Jesus daily?

Pray and ask the Lord to show you where you need to release any areas or part of your life that you are still holding back. Take the time now to confess and to realign your life as a true follower of Jesus. Remember, you have the gift of the Holy Spirit within you to help teach and guide you.

Lord Jesus,

As your disciples, we pray:

That we would remain close to you;

That we would seek guidance from Your Holy Spirit;

That we would reflect your love to our world and to one another.

And may we, like Your first disciples, bring glory to the Father.

Amen