The Cost of Discipleship

(Luke 14:25-33)

Introduction: 1.

- "Cheap grace is the preaching of forgiveness without requiring repentance, baptism without church discipline, communion without confession. Cheap grace is grace without discipleship, grace without the cross..." (Dietrich Bonhoeffer).
- 2. In short, cheap grace is wanting Jesus as your Savior, but not as your Lord.
- 3. In this lesson, I want to emphasize the rigors of being a follower of Jesus, as well as the reward.

I. Many Called, But Few Chosen

- A. It's hard for some to believe that Jesus would ever turn anyone away, because they're not familiar with the Jesus revealed in Scripture.
- B. (Mark 10:17-22) Jesus let the rich, young, ruler walk away.
- C. (Luke 9:57-62) Hardship, priority, and no regrets.
- D. (Luke 14:25-33) Weighing the cost.
- E. Discipleship is not for everyone.

II. The Cost of Discipleship – Practical Applications

- A. (Matthew 13:44-46)
- B. Job (Ephesians 4:28).
- C. Friends (1 Peter 4:4).
- D. Family (Matthew 10:34-39).
- E. Marriage (Luke 16:18; Matthew 19:12).
- F. Behavior (Colossians 3:5-8).

III. The Reward of Discipleship

- A. You will become greater conformed to the image of Jesus (Romans 8:29).
- B. By your example, you will help others acquire eternal life (1 Timothy 4:16).
- C. You will be granted eternal life (Matthew 25:23; John 14:1-3).

Conclusion:

- 1. Friends, there is no such thing as "cheap grace."
- 2. Grace was costly to Jesus (Acts 20:28).
- 3. And grace is costly to anyone who chooses to become a disciple of Jesus (Matthew 10:38).
- 4. However, the reward is great eternal life.
- 5. So that leaves us with a choice. Do we lose our life so we can find it; or do we live to ourselves and die without God?