

THE GOSPEL OF LUKE

JESUS CHRIST THE SON OF MAN

LUKE CHAPTER 14:25-35

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THE TITLE OF THE MESSAGE:

HOW JESUS CHRIST BUILDS A CHURCH – PART 2

*THE HUMANITY AND DIVINITY OF JESUS CHRIST,
THE SON OF GOD, AND THE SON OF MAN*

SUBJECT TOPICALLY REFERENCED UNDER:

Discipleship, Commitment, Purpose, Meaning

BACKGROUND & REVIEW FROM PART 1

The Stage had Been Set

and the time had come for Jesus to announce the **key factor** to the gospel message of His suffering, death and resurrection...

That “Key Factor” would be

in the changed lives of those who would take the words of the Bible, of the Prophets, the Apostles and Jesus Himself - - Taking it Seriously.

On Stage was The Crowd Following Jesus.

They saw the Potential that perhaps the hour had come where Jesus perhaps was about to deliver Israel from the Roman tyranny

Verse 25

:25 Now **great multitudes** went with Him.
And He **turned** and **said** to **them**, (*the great or mega multitude*)

But Jesus saw a Totally Different Kind of Potential

that among those in the crowd, there would be some who would step out and step up by becoming a true “disciple” of Jesus Christ.

There’s a Great Warning to Us Today

Because the Human Mind is Easily Susceptible to Error Because We are Swayed by Our Emotions.

In The Human Mind, a “**crowd**” says something. a “crowd” means success, a “crowd” speaks of approval and acceptance. in a word, a crowd says “validation” - - *but it’s rarely true!*

1 Samuel 16:7

And the Lord said to Samuel, “Do not look at a man’s appearance or at his physical stature... For *the LORD* does not see as man sees; for man looks at the outward appearance of another, but the LORD looks upon the heart.”

HOW JESUS CHRIST BUILDS A CHURCH

1.) By laying a foundation of love

v.25-27

the ministry of Jesus Christ was, is and shall forever be a ministry of love. but not the kind of love that this world knows...

The World Today Doesn’t Know Love

because the world doesn’t know God and without the Lord in your life, you’ll endlessly continue searching for love and meaning...

1 John 4:8-11

He who does not love does not know God, for **God is love**. :9 In this the love of God was manifested toward us, that God has sent His only begotten Son into the world, that we might live through Him. :10 In this is love, not that we loved God, but that He loved us and sent His Son *to be* the propitiation for our sins. :11 Beloved, if God so loved us, we also ought to love one another.

BY LAYING A FOUNDATION OF LOVE

1a.) This love we have for Him prioritizes us v.26

“**If anyone comes** to Me and does not **hate** his father and mother, **wife** and children, brothers and sisters, yes, and his own life also, he cannot be My **disciple**.”

SOUNDS LIKE A SHOCKER

Hate *mise+ w miseo, mis-eh'-o; to love less. the word means "something that is beyond being compared to something else. something or someone so great that nothing or no one can come close."*

Jesus Set, On-Stage, an Obstacle, a Challenge.

And it Was This; That the Lord is to Occupy a Place of **Absolute Priority, Total Preeminence** in a Man's Heart & Life

BY LAYING A FOUNDATION OF LOVE

1b.) This love we have for Him drives us v.27

And whoever does not **bear his cross**
and **come after Me** cannot be My **disciple**.

Crucify or "Electrocute" Your Own Self-Desires, Self-Plans,
Self-Pleasures by Yielding to His

disciple maqhth/β mathetes, math-ay-tes. *a learner, a pupil.
to walk in the same steps. to live the same life, to move the same way. to copy, mimic, to be reproducing another. the relationship that exists between the journeyman and his apprentice.*

Note To "Self"

It's A Custom Cross

*I'm to bear **my own cross**.
each of us as Christians, as disciples have a...*

today, I can either wear a cross, or a cross can wear me

to "**bear**" my own cross
(is to endure, to suffer, is to put up with all that following Jesus entails)
To bear the **consequences** of being a disciple.

<< can you be a Christian and not be a Disciple? >>

A Disciple

does what Jesus said to do. you say what Jesus said to say, you live like Jesus said to live. that is going to generate a reaction from this world.

The Thief on the Cross

became a Christian and in a matter of a couple of hours, died and went to heaven.

BY LAYING A FOUNDATION OF LOVE

1c.) This love we have for Him constrains us v.27

To “Hold” Us “Tight” & “Close” to Him

1 Corinthians 2:9

But as it is written: *“Eye has not seen, nor ear heard, Nor have entered into the heart of man The things which God has prepared for those who love Him.”*

Peter 1:8-9

You love him even though you have never seen him. Though you do not see him, you trust him; and even now you are happy with a glorious, inexpressible joy. **:9** Your reward for trusting him will be the salvation of your souls.

HOW JESUS CHRIST BUILDS A CHURCH

2.) By asking for a commitment v.28-30

2a.) This commitment requires devotion v.28-29a

:28 For which of you, intending to build a **tower**, (*a place of vigilance*) does not sit down first and count the cost, whether he has *enough* to finish *it* - - **:29** lest, after he has laid the foundation, and is not able to finish...

2b.) This commitment requires dedication v.29b-30

Then, all who see *it* begin to mock him, **:30** saying, “This man began to build and was not able to finish.”

Devotion, Dedication and...
BY ASKING FOR A COMMITMENT

2c.) This commitment requires delight v.28-30

In Jesus' Illustration;
Why does this man fail in His Commitment?

he fails because of a lack of delight (commitment) to the cause

He didn't think his "commitment" all the way through. It was a "casual" decision, a half-hearted step. he failed to prepare himself for what lay ahead.

A Lack of "Delight" in Christ
is a result of a lack of "Dependence".

Psalm 37:4-5

Delight yourself also in the LORD, And He shall give you the desires of your heart. :5
Commit your way to the LORD, Trust also in Him, And He shall bring *it* to pass.

Delight

aw-nag'; to be soft or pliable, moldable. to be able to be shaped.

To "Delight" in Him brings about the "Shaping" and that brings about a "Brokenness"
which in turn produces, "Dependence". =
that's a really good thing!

HOW JESUS CHRIST BUILDS A CHURCH

1.) By laying a foundation of love v.25-27

2.) By asking for a commitment v.28-30

3.) By telling the truth v.31-32

3a.) And the truth is - logic and reason matter v.31

Or what king, going to make war against another king, does not sit down first and consider whether he is able with ten thousand to meet him who comes against him with twenty thousand?

Logic and Reason
are vital parts of what God created in us.
we've been given "**Capacities**" that lead to conclusions.

Think About Being My Disciple, My Apprentice?
use your head, argue it out, count the cost.

Matthew 19:29

And everyone who has left houses or brothers or sisters or father or mother or wife or children or lands, for My name's sake, shall receive a hundredfold, and inherit eternal life.

Let's Assume Something for a Moment.
assume that each and every one of us "believe" in the gospel message.
and there comes into the sanctuary a man who says...

I Can't, I Won't Believe in Your God

ask him, "what are his reasons for not believing in Him?"
"What logical process of thought and argument has brought you to this conclusion?"

If he won't look at the **Bible**. then take him to the "other" **Reality**.
What's seen and displayed and observed in life.

Take What's **Observed** and Then Show Him the **Bible**

1 Peter 3:15

...In your hearts **set apart** Christ as **Lord**. Always be **prepared** to give an answer to **everyone who asks** you to give the **reason** for the hope that you have. But do this with gentleness and respect,

HOW JESUS CHRIST BUILDS A CHURCH BY TELLING THE TRUTH

3b.) And the truth is - yielding and surrender is key v.32

Or else, while the other is still a great way off,
he sends a delegation and **asks for conditions of peace.**

if you're thinking about following me in service (battle) then...

You will need to be yielded and surrendered to my command.

Luke 9:59-62

Then Jesus said to him, "Follow Me." But the man said, "Lord, let me first go and bury my father." :60 Jesus said to him, "Let the dead bury their own dead, but you go and preach the kingdom of God." :61 And another also said, "Lord, I will follow You, but let me first go *and* bid them farewell who are at my house." :62 But Jesus said to him, "No one, having put his hand to the plow, and looking back, is fit for the kingdom of God."

"Asks for conditions of peace."

You and I Both Know

down deep inside, where we're alone and naked, where there's no place to hide - - it's a place that is either vehemently avoided like the plague.

or

it's now a place of great internal peace and acceptance, of joy and security.
a place of rest...

Matthew 11:28-30

Come to Me, all *you* who labor and are heavy laden, and I will give you rest. :29 Take My yoke upon you and learn from Me, for I am gentle and lowly in heart, and you will find rest for your souls. :30 For My yoke *is* easy and My burden is light."

which is it for you today – honestly?

Romans 3:23

for all have sinned and fall short of the glory of God,

John 8:10-11

When Jesus had raised Himself up and saw no one but the woman, He said to her, "Woman, where are those accusers of yours? Has no one condemned you?" :11 She said, "No one, Lord." And Jesus said to her, "Neither do I condemn you; go and sin no more."

Have You... "asked for conditions of peace?"

HOW JESUS CHRIST BUILDS A CHURCH

4.) By requiring effectiveness

v.33-35

What will be the **Evidence** that a Christian is a Disciple?

Galatians 5:22-23

For **the fruit** of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, longsuffering, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, :23 gentleness, self-control. Against such there is no law.

Matthew 5:14

"You are the light of the world. A city that is set on a hill cannot be hidden.

"but I'm an undercover Christian pastor jack"

4a.) A changed life affects me personally v.33

So likewise, (**whoever**) of you who does not **forsake** all that he has cannot be My **disciple**.

Remember Now The Definition of a "Disciple"

disciple maqhth/β mathetes, math-ay-tes. *a learner, a pupil. one who walks in the same steps. to live the same life, to copy, to mimic. the relationship that exists between the journeyman and his apprentice.*

Jesus is *not* saying that this man is **not allowed** to follow,

He is *saying* that this man will **not be able** follow.

(it won't work for him – there's too much clutter in his heart - stuff)

First Off - Has My Life Been “Factually Changed” Since Receiving Christ?
Secondly - Is My New Life “Affecting” Me more and more?

2 Corinthians 5:16-17

Therefore, from now on, we regard no one according to the flesh. Even though we have known Christ according to the flesh, yet now we know *Him thus* no longer. :17
Therefore, if anyone *is* in Christ, *he is* a new creation; old things have passed away; behold, all things have become new.

This “*Discipleship*” Life is Explained by Jesus

Matthew 10:38-39

And he who does not take his cross and follow after Me **is not worthy of Me.** :39 For he who **finds his life will lose it**, and he who **loses his life for My sake will find it.**

BY REQUIRING EFFECTIVENESS

4b.) A changed life affects us corporately v.34-35a

“Salt *is* good; but if the salt has lost its flavor, how shall it be seasoned? :35 It is neither fit for the land nor for the dunghill, *but* men throw it out.

this is an awesome illustration that Jesus gives here.
Sodium Chloride (Salt) by its Nature cannot lose its saltiness.

Ineffective Salt Only Happens by Dilution

it can be **invaded** or **diluted** or come in contact with (*the things of this earth – chemicals*) with **impurities**, a **foreign** substance. – and be neutralized!

you can lessen the effectiveness of salt by adding “**things**” to it.

Jesus is both instructing and warning us

the instruction is: that a Christian must be salty in this world.

the warning is: that if a Christian is not, he becomes unusable

Jesus is Warning Against “Mixing” with the World.

Romans 12:1-2

I beseech you therefore, brethren, by the mercies of God, that you present your bodies a living sacrifice, holy, acceptable to God, *which is* your reasonable service. :2 And do not be conformed to this world, but be transformed by the renewing of your mind, that you may prove what *is* that good and acceptable and perfect will of God.

Prevent Mixing or Stop the Mixing

2 Corinthians 6:14

Do not be yoked together with unbelievers. For what do righteousness and wickedness have in common? Or what fellowship can light have with darkness?

BY REQUIRING EFFECTIVENESS

4c.) A changed life affects the world completely v.35b

He who has **ears** to hear, let him hear!”

this **expression**, or **exhortation** to “hear”
appears **16 times** in the New Testament alone,

8 of those 16 appearances Jesus used it Himself to challenge
those Professing Christianity!

It’s an Invitation by Jesus to All, to Anyone
who is willing to hear Him, to listen to Him, to follow Him, to Join Him.

I had the opportunity to see the **Victor Hugo’s** musical,

Les Miserable

in London England. I will never forget it – ever, because of the story, the message but most importantly, the ending

**The Entire Cast Came Out on Stage and Joined Hands
and with that great voice, Jean Val-Jean exhorted us:**

“To you les miserable - if you can hear the message in this story,
it’s that Christ can set you free, join us as we tell the world.”

Matthew 28:18-20

And Jesus came and spoke to them, saying, “All authority has been given to Me in heaven and on earth. **:19** Go therefore and make **disciples** of all the nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, **:20** teaching them to observe all things that I have commanded you; and lo, I am with you always, *even to the end of the age.*” Amen.

End of Study
