

# TRINITY NEWS

## The Cost of Discipleship

Following Christ takes serious consideration at times. Despite the radiant future we look forward to among God's elect we come to times like these when we are faced to wrestle with the practical aspects of spiritual truths taught by Jesus. We may find Jesus' words for his own people in our Gospel today to be as striking as it is for us today.

What is the cost of following Jesus? Before taking up directly the theme of "the gospel for the outcast" (D.A. Carson) foreshadowed in verses 21-24, Jesus point to the severe demands which accompany his invitation to God's banquet.

- To be a disciple is to be ready to place Jesus and his claims above those of both family and self.
- To be a disciple would mean to be prepared to deny oneself completely, and these includes everything he has- whether "to carry his (or her) cross" means literally martyrdom or metaphorically to "die" to all personal desires.

Ultimately people should count the cost of saying "no" to self and "yes" to be a disciple which people may not follow to the end. This according to Jesus' analogy is foolishness like a builder who would have to leave his project unfinished because he ran out of funds; or like a military general who does not consider the strength of his army before engaging a stronger foe into battle. But how is this possible unless people see it from the end of their life?

Later we will see Jesus losing everything for his disciples, it is the key. To be a real disciple is to follow our master's example, it is to lose everything by trusting him in everything.

"Jesus of Nazareth always comes asking disciples to follow him--not merely "accept him," not merely "believe in him," not merely "worship him," but to follow him: one either follows Christ, or one does not." - Lee Camp.

Deacon Melvin Bautista

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### THIS WEEK:

Wednesday. Bible Study, 10 a.m.  
Thursday. Midweek Eucharist, 10 a.m.

### UPCOMING EVENTS:

Sept. 29 - 9a.m. Joint service & lunch.  
Oct. 20 - Harvest Sunday.

### NEXT WEEK'S READINGS:

(Proper 18)

Exodus 32:1,7-14; Psalm 51  
1 Timothy 1:12-17; Luke 15:1-10