"*What is Your Discipleship Costing You?*"

Matthew 8:18-22 (*Part 1*)

Are you sarcastic?

Maybe it's just Hyperbole:

- What is hyperbole?
- Exaggeration to make a point, for effect.
- Some examples…

Luke 9:57-62 [parallel passage]

57 As they were going along the road, someone said to him, "I will follow you wherever you go." 58 And Jesus said to him, "Foxes have holes, and birds of the air have nests, but the Son of Man has nowhere to lay his head."

59 To another he said, "Follow me." But he said, "Lord, let me first go and bury my father." 60 And Jesus said to him, "Leave the dead to bury their own dead. But as for you, go and proclaim the kingdom of God." 61 Yet another said, "I will follow you, Lord, but let me first say farewell to those at my home." 62 Jesus said to him, "No one who puts his hand to the plow and looks back is fit for the kingdom of God."

What does it mean to follow Jesus?

- Isn't that what these 3 are asking, saying that they want to do?
- And Jesus's answers are pretty sharp, somewhat sarcastic, even as though He is telling them not to bother!
- We would say, I would say: "wonderful, praise the Lord!"

What does it mean to follow Jesus TODAY?

- Discipleship! Being a disciple of Jesus.
- In Luke 14:25-33 Jesus says 3 times…
  - You cannot be my disciple.
- Here in our text Jesus tells these 3 "don't bother"
- After they had said: they wanted to follow, they are going, planning on following…
- "I'll follow you, I'll come with you."
- Following means… illustration: follow me to…

So where is Discipleship, *today*?

- Where is I will follow?
- Where is taking up cross?
- Where is leaving father & mother?
- Where are your priorities?
- There is no greater joy, peace, security in this world than being a disciple!
- So why are there so few that are doing it?

I believe Jesus gives us some answers here:

- He wants us to take a good look at discipleship. AND
- We need to look at the cost of discipleship.

You need to look at the *cost* of discipleship:

I. The look of discipleship (what do many think it looks like?)

A. Jesus prepares to get away (v.18)

B. 3 men, 2 here, one in Luke 9:57-62

C. They wanted the benefits

D. Talk the talk (v.19) but Jesus knew:

- **strong profession**
- **good words**
- **good talk** **Does not mean, does not reflect, strong commitment!**

Is that not the problem today?

II. The truth of discipleship – so Jesus is honest

A. No physical glamour (v.20)

B. Not even the basic comforts of life, no home.

C. He showed the scribe – you better think about…

D. The truth of Hebrews 11

E. The scribe disappears – no response

He learns of the cost and is not interested.



Conclusion:

- What is your discipleship costing you?
- It must be more than just words!
- Of saying yeah, I'm a follower.
- Yeah, I'm a disciple.
- We must remember it's a relationship.
- We must remember it's a battle
- We are battling the world,
- Battling Satan. Battling our flesh!
- The war is in our soul everyday. Is it?
- Jesus said: following Me is serious it's going to cost you.