

Sunday's message invited us to consider the following question(s). Discuss your answers.

- Is every Christian a disciple of Jesus?
- Are the words "Christian" and "disciple" synonymous?
- Is there a difference between a believer in Jesus & a follower of Jesus?

Entering into the Kingdom of Jesus occurs responsively in a moment but living as a disciple develops intentionally over time. At Summit we say "intentional follower of Jesus" because our goal is to follow, learn from, train under & become like Jesus, such that His life is lived through me. It is to be transformed in Jesus-likeness and to be engaged in His mission in the world. Jesus' call to be His disciple requires we both consider the cost and pursue His purposes. In what ways does your life reflect this "cost" and "pursuit"?

In counting the cost as disciples, we must settle 3 big issues. Read Luke 14:26. Firstly, we are called to love God so much more than anyone else in our life. Our love for Jesus must trump all other relationships. We must settle the issue of relationship. Who is your supreme relationship in your life?

Read Luke 14:27. Secondly, Jesus calls us to let go of our lives, surrender our control, identify with Jesus and follow Him. We are to die to self: self promotion, self exaltation, self focus. We must settle the issue of who owns us. Who is on the throne of your life - Jesus or you?

Read Luke 14:33. Lastly, Jesus calls us to renounce the control of what we have, everything we have is God's. Our deepest love cannot be in materialism or the love of money. We must settle the issue of stewardship. Do money or possessions drive you? Or do you hold these things with a loose hand, giving them over to God for His use in this world?



As disciples, we pursue God's purposes. Read John 13:34,35. I enjoy & express God's love. Share ways you receive God's love and enjoy Him. In what ways do you see the expression of God's love through your life?

As disciples, we pursue God's purposes. Read John 8:31,32. We abide in and align with God's Word. It is powerful to study and learn God's Word and to see its transformative power in the application of our lives. What are some of your practices for Biblical study? Can you give examples from your life of the Word's transformative power at work?

As disciples, we pursue God's purposes. Read John 15:8. I bear & build up the Spirit's fruit in my life. We see the character of Christ, humility, good works/service, and so on. What are some of the remarkable ways you have seen God bear fruit in your life?

We are to *follow* Jesus...not just accept or believe or worship, the call of Jesus to become a disciple is the calling of our entire lives. Are you His disciple? Have you chosen to follow Jesus?