

Series: 7 Habits of a Disciple
Message: A Surrendered Life
Text: Luke 14:26-36 (AM 3/26/17)

Successful retailers must determine what their audience wants and *deliver*. It's an ever-changing market. Yesterday, consumers wanted a *bigger* hamburger. Today, they demand a *healthier* one! *Consumerism* has sadly infiltrated the Church. Therefore, Church Leaders are *marketing* the Church. Determine what the people want and *deliver!* The results are "Church-lite", bent on luring the crowds to be merely *entertained and encouraged*. The true gospel and discipleship, however, are a call to *self-denial* not self-enlightenment. Jesus' disciple exchanges mere temporal happiness for heaven's fulfillment and joy.

I. Count the Cost of God's Devotion

God ravishes His Children in amazing Grace

- He Created us (Ps 139:13) "*I am fearfully and wonderfully made...*"
- He Came for us (Gal 4:4) "*God sent forth his Son...*"
- He was Crucified for us (Rom 5:8) "*God demonstrated His Love...*"
- He Conquered death for us (Jn 11:25) "*I am the resurrection...*"
- He Comforts us (Jn 14:16) "*He will give you another Helper...*"
- He's Crafting a house for us (Jn 14:3) "*I...prepare a place for you...*"
- He Coming for us (Jn 14:3) "*I will come again and receive you...*"

II. Count the Cost of our Discipleship

The ravished disciple responds in abandonment

- Love Jesus *more* than family (26a) "*Hate(s) his father and mother...*"
- Love Jesus *more* than our future (26b) "*Hates...his own life*"
- Love Jesus *more* than fame (27) "*Whoever does not bear his Cross*"
- Love Jesus *more* than any fortune (33) "*Forsake all that he has...*"

III. Count the Cost of His Delight

Heaven and earth admire our portraits of His Grace

- A testament to Grace (28-30) "*Count the cost...to build a tower*"
- A testimony of Grace (31-32) "*Consider whether he is able...to war*"
- A taste of Grace (34-35) "*Salt is good...(to) flavor*"

Application to life: Discipleship is more than church membership or attendance. Christ's Disciples have discovered the joy of their Journey with Jesus. Ravished in His Grace they've abandoned themselves to His purposes. Confident to find fulfillment in a relationship with Him. *Answer His Call today!*