

## **Count the Cost**

**Luke 14:25-35 // Pastor Todd Dugard // March 18-19, 2017**

### **Get Started!**

Have you ever come across a counterfeit product of some kind? How could you tell? What happened?

### **Dig In!**

*A genuine disciple . . . loves Jesus more than any other (v. 25-26).*

- What is your initial reaction to Jesus' words in v. 26? What point is he making? How would you articulate this extreme statement in your own words?
- What could it look like to love your family more than Jesus? How do we often make our family a modern-day idol? Do you see any examples of this in your own life?
- What could it look like to love Jesus more than your family? How does loving Jesus first and most actually enable you to love your family members better?

*A genuine disciple . . . follows Jesus no matter what (v. 27).*

- Pastor Todd said, "If we have the idea that following Jesus provides ease of life and nothing but good things, we will quit before we start." To what degree was this your idea when you decided to follow him? Why is "easy Christianity" a false gospel?
- What does the metaphor of "bearing one's own cross" communicate? What circumstances often get us off-track in our discipleship? How should these concerns drive us to Jesus, rather than away from him?

*A genuine disciple . . . goes all-in for Jesus to the end (v. 28-33).*

- Why is perseverance a critical mark of a true Christ follower? How do the two parables further this point? What does Jesus also say about the importance of endurance in Matthew 24:13? How does this principle mesh with the doctrine of salvation by grace alone through faith alone?
- Pastor Todd said, "There are no part-time Christians. Jesus isn't part of your life. He is your life." What is your response? How can you assess whether you are truly all-in for Christ?

*A genuine disciple . . . impacts the world for Jesus (v. 34-35).*

- What are the effects of salt on food? How are believers called to similarly impact the world around them? What specific impact are you having on those in your sphere of influence?

### **Break Out!**

"He who has ears to hear, let him hear." Are you a genuine disciple . . . or are you just looking the part? To what degree have you counted (and are you continuing to count) the cost of following Jesus? Which particular aspect of this message is the Holy Spirit challenging you to apply in a fresh way? How so?

