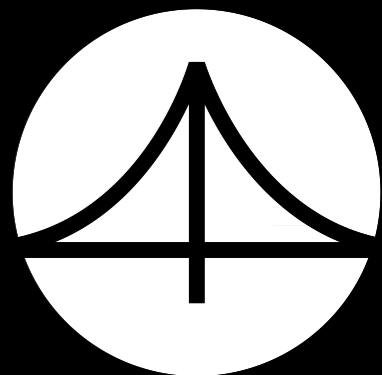


Luke: The Cost of Following

Luke 9:51-62



**Following Jesus is costly
but worth the price.**

- 1. The Invitation**
- 2. The Cost**
- 3. The Reward**

The Invitation

- Jesus invites everyone to follow Him, regardless of their background.
- The invitation to follow Jesus is for you today.
- The invitation: to follow Jesus

The Invitation

- Following involves action
- Following involves commitment
- Following means tying our future to Jesus
- Following involves a response
- Rejecting the invitation is costly

The Cost

- Following Jesus means facing rejection and discomfort
- Jesus calls us to live with a proper awareness of the time we're living in and to respond properly to it
- Jesus calls us to prioritize Him over everything, even good things like honoring our parents
- Following Jesus may even cost us our reputation in church
- Jesus calls us to let go of all the alternatives to Him we've tried to build our lives around

The Reward

- All of us follow someone or something in life
- No matter who or what we follow, we are shaped and influenced by the person or thing we're following, and we make sacrifices to follow them
- Nothing else can give us what it promises
- Jesus is clear on the cost of following Him, but He offers us Himself in return

The Reward

- What will our lives look like when we're following Jesus?
 - Repentance (turning away) from other things or people we've tried to build our lives around
 - Faith - a trust in Jesus that is committed to following Him regardless of the cost
 - Proclaiming the kingdom of God - sharing the good news with others