

HINDRANCES TO MISSIONS

Now large crowds were going along with Him, and He turned and said to them, ²⁶"If anyone comes to Me and does not hate his own father, mother, wife, children, brothers, sisters, yes, and even his own life, he cannot be My disciple. ²⁷Whoever does not carry his own cross and come after Me cannot be My disciple. ²⁸For which one of you, when he wants to build a tower, does not first sit down and calculate the cost, to see if he has enough to complete it? ²⁹Otherwise, when he has laid a foundation and is not able to finish, all who are watching it will begin to ridicule him, ³⁰saying, 'This person began to build, and was not able to finish!' ³¹Or what king, when he sets out to meet another king in battle, will not first sit down and consider whether he is strong enough with ten thousand men to face the one coming against him with twenty thousand? ³²Otherwise, while the other is still far away, he sends a delegation and requests terms of peace. ³³So then, none of you can be My disciple who does not give up all his own possessions.
Luke 14:25-33 (NASB)

1. Unbalanced LOVE.

"If anyone comes to Me and does not hate his own father, mother, wife, children, brothers, sisters, yes, and even his own life, he cannot be My disciple.

Luke 14:26 (NASB)

And He answered, "You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart, and with all your soul, and with all your strength, and with all your mind; and your neighbor as yourself."

Luke 10:27 (NASB)

2. FEAR.

Whoever does not carry his own cross and come after Me cannot be My disciple.

Luke 14:27 (NASB)

The Lord is my light and my salvation; whom shall I fear? The Lord is the defense of my life; whom should I dread... ¹⁴Wait for the Lord; be strong and let your heart take courage; yes, wait for the Lord.

Psalms 27:1, 14 (NASB)

3. Lack of FAITH.

For which one of you, when he wants to build a tower, does not first sit down and calculate the cost, to see if he has enough to complete it?

Luke 14:28 (NASB)

"If it be so, our God whom we serve is able to rescue us from the furnace of blazing fire; and He will rescue us from your hand, O king. ¹⁸But even if He does not, let it be known to you, O king, that we are not going to serve your gods nor worship the golden statue that you have set up."

4. SELFISHNESS and COMFORT.

So then, none of you can be My disciple who does not give up all his own possessions.

Luke 14:33 (NASB)

If anyone wants to come after Me, he must deny himself, take up his cross, and follow Me. ³⁵For whoever wants to save his life will lose it, but whoever loses his life for My sake and the gospel's will save it. ³⁶For what does it benefit a person to gain the whole world, and forfeit his soul? ³⁷For what could a person give in exchange for his soul?

Mark 8:34b-37 (NASB)

❖ The So What...

- 1) What am I afraid of?
- 2) Am I willing to sacrifice everything for the cause of Christ?
- 3) Action Item: "Choose not the path of fear, but of faith."

❖ Closing Truth:

For "Everyone who calls on the name of the Lord will be saved." ¹⁴How then are they to call on Him in whom they have not believed? How are they to believe in Him whom they have not heard? And how are they to hear without [YOU]?

Romans 10:13-14 (NASB)