

The high cost of caring

²⁵ Large crowds were now traveling with Jesus, and He turned and said to them, ²⁶ “If anyone comes to Me and does not **hate his father and mother** and wife and children and brothers and sisters—yes, even his own life—he cannot be My disciple. ²⁷ And whoever does not **carry his cross** and follow Me cannot be My disciple.

²⁸ Which of you **wishing to build** a tower, does not first sit down and **count the cost** to see if he has the resources to complete it?

²⁹ Otherwise, if he lays the foundation and is unable to finish the work, everyone who sees it will ridicule him, ³⁰ saying, ‘This man could not finish what he started to build.’

³¹ Or what king **on his way to war** with another king will not first sit down and consider whether he can engage with ten thousand men the one coming against him with twenty thousand? ³² And if he is unable, he will send a delegation while the other king is still far off, to **ask for terms of** peace.

³³ In the same way, any one of you who does not give up everything he has cannot be My disciple.

Luke 14:25-33

Does anyone care ? 14:25-27

My healthy relationship to is by clear 26

“love...hate” Mal.1:1-3, Rom.9:11-15

Evidence: Genesis 32:13 – 33:9

God is love. 1 John 4:8,16. John 3:16

My healthy relationship to is by self- 27

Luke 9:23. Gal.5:22-24

How do I care for ? 14:28-30

I build with my Aspire to big 28a

Prov.21:5. James 4:13-16

I build with my Live within 28b

How do I care for ? 14:31-33

Conflict is normal. Only the battles you can win. 31

Romans13:1-2

Peace is possible. Make with the battles you can't win. 32

1 Pet.3:10-11. John 14:27. Colossians 3:15.

Philippians 4:4-9

My prayer priorities for this week

S 7 Sue C and Bill

M 8 Robert and Dianne

T 9 Lurline and Terry; Mary P

W 10 Joy D

T 11 Rosalie and Jim; Paula and Paul

F 12 Barry and Marion

S 13 Mary F; Jean H

S 14 Helen and George H

Thought starters for personal reflection or group discussion

1. Answer the critic who says, “How can God be loving when Jesus tells us to hate everyone?”
2. The Bible seems to be full of contradictions. How can Jesus expect us to live an abundant life if we are crucifying ourselves?
3. What are some a) Practical; and b) Spiritual implications of counting the cost before we sign the contract?
4. What is the spiritual cost of becoming a follower of Jesus; and how do we know the cost; and how do we pay the cost?
5. Why is conflict so common? (How common is it?) List some helpful ways of preventing, minimising, and managing conflict.
6. This text ends (Luke 14:33) with a big ask, and a big consequence. Why do you think God sets the bar so high? How can we reach it?

Tithes and offerings (Target: \$2,700 per week)

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Donations to mission in Myanmar (Target: \$1,000 per month)

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