

Handout May 17, 2024

Count the Cost / Tasteless Salt

Welcome back and here we go!

As always, tonight I will be challenging you to count the cost of being an advancing Christian in a world that seems to be in a rapid retreat.

- Let's talk Israel.

1) The _____ is _____!

Luke 14:25-35 ²⁵ Now great multitudes went with Him. And He turned and said to them, ²⁶ "If anyone comes to Me and does not hate his father and mother, wife and children, brothers and sisters, yes, and his own life also, he cannot be My disciple. ²⁷ And whoever does not bear his cross and come after Me cannot be My disciple. ²⁸ For which of you, intending to build a tower, does not sit down first and count the cost, whether he has enough to finish it— ²⁹ lest, after he has laid the foundation, and is not able to finish, all who see it begin to mock him, ³⁰ saying, 'This man began to build and was not able to finish'? ³¹ Or what king, going to make war against another king, does not sit down first and consider whether he is able with ten thousand to meet him who comes against him with twenty thousand? ³² Or else, while the other is still a great way off, he sends a delegation and asks conditions of peace. ³³ So likewise, whoever of you does not forsake all that he has cannot be My disciple. ³⁴ "Salt is good; but if the salt has lost its flavor, how shall it be seasoned? ³⁵ It is neither fit for the land nor for the ^[a]dunghill, but men throw it out. He who has ears to hear, let him hear!"

- God doesn't want you to hate anybody, especially family.
- The full counsel of the Word.

2) When you accept Christ you have begun to build a _____ house!

Luke 6:46-49 ⁴⁶ "But why do you call Me 'Lord, Lord,' and not do the things which I say? ⁴⁷ Whoever comes to Me, and hears My sayings and does them, I will show you whom he is like: ⁴⁸ He is like a man building a house, who dug deep and laid the foundation on the rock. And when the flood arose, the stream beat vehemently against that house, and could not shake it, for it was founded on the rock. ⁴⁹ But he who heard and did nothing is like a man who built a house on the earth without a foundation, against which the stream beat vehemently; and immediately it fell. And the ruin of that house was great."

- Your relationship with God is like a building and it needs a solid foundation!
- **Ephesians 2:19-22** ¹⁹ Now, therefore, you are no longer strangers and foreigners, but fellow citizens with the saints and members of the household of God, ²⁰ having been built on the foundation of the apostles and prophets, Jesus Christ Himself being the chief cornerstone, ²¹ in whom the whole building, being fitted together, grows into a holy temple in the Lord, ²² in whom you also are being built together for a dwelling place of God in the Spirit.
- Every decision after salvation is like lumber!

3) Poor _____ are like _____ wood!

- Defective wood
- Rotten wood
- Creates problems later

4) The most important _____ is _____ in building supplies!

Luke 14:27 And whoever does not bear his cross and come after Me cannot be My disciple.

- The scriptures say we must bear our cross, meaning sacrifice and death to self.

5) Dying to self means _____ !

- We must address past mistakes honestly.
- Go back and restore.
- Left alone and keep putting in bad leads to collapse.

=====**Our Example**=====

Philippians 3:17-19 ¹⁷ *Brethren, join in following my example, and note those who so walk, as you have us for a pattern.* ¹⁸ *For many walk, of whom I have told you often, and now tell you even weeping, that they are the enemies of the cross of Christ:* ¹⁹ *whose end is destruction, whose god is their belly, and whose glory is in their shame—who set their mind on earthly things.*

=====**Opening and meals**=====

How focused are you really on Kingdom Advancement?

6) Do an _____ / _____ !

- 1 Corinthians - Examine yourself.
 - 1 Peter - Humble thyself.
 - 1 John - Confess
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- Do a inspection.
 - Assess needs.
 - Make repairs.

Luke 14:34-35 --- Don't be tasteless!

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