

Doubtless Living!

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THE GOSPEL OF

LUKE

That you may have certainty!

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RECOGNIZE THIS CASTLE?

- NEUSCHWANSTEIN CASTLE IN GERMANY
- WHY IS IT FAMOUS?
- WHAT BIG MISTAKE DID THE OWNER MAKE DURING ITS CONSTRUCTION?

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DEDICATION WITH RESOLVE

COUNTING THE COST OF DISCIPLESHIP

Luke 14:25-35

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DEDICATION WITH RESOLVE

Luke 14:25-34

²⁵ Now great crowds were traveling with him. So he turned and said to them: ²⁶ "If anyone comes to me and does not hate his own father and mother, wife and children, brothers and sisters — yes, and even his own life — he cannot be my disciple. ²⁷ Whoever does not bear his own cross and come after me cannot be my disciple.

²⁸ "For which of you, wanting to build a tower, doesn't first sit down and calculate the

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DEDICATION WITH RESOLVE

Luke 14:25-34

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cost to see if he has enough to complete it?
²⁹ Otherwise, after he has laid the foundation and cannot finish it, all the onlookers will begin to ridicule him, ³⁰ saying, 'This man started to build and wasn't able to finish.'

³¹ "Or what king, going to war against another king, will not first sit down and decide if he is able with ten thousand to oppose the one who comes against him with twenty thousand? ³² If not, while the other is still far

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DEDICATION WITH RESOLVE

Luke 14:25-34

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off, he sends a delegation and asks for terms of peace. ³³ In the same way, therefore, every one of you who does not renounce all his possessions cannot be my disciple.

³⁴ "Now, salt is good, but if salt should lose its taste, how will it be made salty? ³⁵ It isn't fit for the soil or for the manure pile; they throw it out. Let anyone who has ears to hear listen."

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DEDICATION WITH RESOLVE

Luke 14:25-34

What's different
about the response
of the two groups?

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²⁵ Now **great crowds were traveling with him.** So he turned and said to them: ²⁶ "If anyone comes to me and does not hate his own father and mother, wife and children, brothers and sisters — yes, and even his own life — he cannot be my disciple.

Where was Jesus during our focal passage last week?

Where is He now, in this passage?

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DEDICATION WITH RESOLVE

Luke 14:25-34

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²⁵ Now great crowds were traveling with him. **So he turned and said to them:** ²⁶ "If anyone comes to me and does not hate his own father and mother, wife and children, brothers and sisters — yes, and even his own life — he cannot be my disciple.

This passage marks a major turning point in Jesus' journey.

From now on, Jesus deals almost exclusively with discipleship.

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DEDICATION WITH RESOLVE

Luke 14:25-34

Hating others would violate Jesus' own commands.

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26 "If anyone comes to me and **does not hate** his own father and mother, wife and children, brothers and sisters — yes, and even his own life — **he cannot be my disciple.**

Does Jesus truly mean that we must "hate" ourselves and our family to follow Him?

How can we know that Jesus is speaking rhetorically in this instance?

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DEDICATION WITH RESOLVE

Luke 14:25-34

Jesus is to be the disciple's first love!

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26 "If anyone comes to me and **does not hate** his own father and mother, wife and children, brothers and sisters — yes, and even his own life — **he cannot be my disciple.**

Hate (*miseo* in Greek), in this context, means to "love less."

So then, what does Jesus mean by this statement?

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DEDICATION WITH RESOLVE

Luke 14:25-34

It's another way to express willingness to "hate one's life" in self-sacrifice.

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²⁷ Whoever does not **bear his own cross** and come after me cannot be my disciple.

What does Jesus mean when He says one must be able to bear one's own cross?

Cross-bearing denotes a willingness to bear the pain of persecution as a result of following Jesus.

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DEDICATION WITH RESOLVE

Luke 14:25-34

"Following Jesus is not an invitation to an ice-cream social"

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²⁸ "For which of you, wanting to build a tower, doesn't **first sit down and calculate the cost** to see if he has enough to complete it?

²⁹ Otherwise, after he has laid the foundation and cannot finish it, all the onlookers will begin to ridicule him, ³⁰ saying, 'This man started to build and wasn't able to finish.'

What point is Jesus trying to make with His disciples?

Discipleship is not a hasty decision.

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DEDICATION WITH RESOLVE

Luke 14:25-34

Before choosing to follow Him, make sure you are willing and able to do it.

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³¹ "Or **what king, going to war against another king, will not first sit down and decide if he is able** with ten thousand to oppose the one who comes against him with twenty thousand? ³² If not, while the other is still far off, he sends a delegation and asks for terms of peace.

What point is Jesus making to all prospective disciples with this illustration?

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DEDICATION WITH RESOLVE

Luke 14:25-34

Jesus is not a minimalist when it comes to commitment.

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³³ In the same way, therefore, **every one of you who does not renounce all his possessions** cannot be my disciple.

What must disciples be willing to give up to follow Jesus?

Dedication to Jesus is dedication to life without material resources to fall back on.

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DEDICATION WITH RESOLVE

Luke 14:25-34

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³⁴ "Now, salt is good, but **if salt should lose its taste, how will it be made salty?** ³⁵ It isn't fit for the soil or for the manure pile; they throw it out. Let anyone who has ears to hear listen."

What does salt represent in this analogy from Jesus?

A disciple that lacks resolve is like salt that has lost its effect, neither are useful for their intended purpose.

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DELIBERATE DISCIPLESHIP

- Following Jesus has cost and consequences – it can isolate and separate us from those not likewise dedicated to Him.
- Discipleship requires that Jesus be the first love, and it requires renunciation of anything that comes before Him.
- Discipleship is a full-time commitment, and nothing should modify, interrupt, or compete with it.
- Faith does not stop with decision, it commences. Faith is the entry into relationship.
- True discipleship = **Dying to Live!**

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