


Setting Our Faces Toward Jerusalem


The Cost of Discipleship  
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Luke 9:51-62



When the days drew near for him to be taken up, he set his face to go to Jerusalem.

Luke 9:51



The Passion

- » Death
- » Resurrection
- » Ascension



Intentionality

- » Determination
- » resolute



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First Story: Opposition

Luke 9:51-56



## Offer of Friendship (v52)

- » Rejected – most likely a rude response
- » Jesus seen as an enemy (v53)



## Angry Response by Disciples

- » Call down fire (v54)
- » Jesus respects them and moves on



## Tolerance & Patience

- » Jesus extends friendship
- » Rejected but simply moves on
- » No angry grudges/ no resentment



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### Second Story: Cost of Discipleship

Luke 9:57-62



As they were going along the road, someone said to him, 'I will follow you wherever you go.' And Jesus said to him, 'Foxes have holes, and birds of the air have nests; but the Son of Man has nowhere to lay his head.'

Luke 9:57-58



## Count the Cost

- » Discipleship is not casual
- » Not a way of comfort and convenience



## Addresses Issues

- i. Security – money, no risk
- ii. Identity – out of step with culture's mores



To another he said, 'Follow me.' But he said, 'Lord, first let me go and bury my father.' But Jesus said to him, 'Let the dead bury their own dead; but as for you, go and proclaim the kingdom of God.'

Luke 9:59-60



## Cultural Obligations

- » Burying the dead
- » Seems a legitimate request



## Kingdom Demands

- » At times supersede cultural obligations
- » Keep focused on the Kingdom
- » Proclamation of Kingdom



## Priorities

- » Do not become sidetracked
- » Will one thing
- » Do not drift



Another said, 'I will follow you, Lord; but let me first say farewell to those at my home.' Jesus said to him, 'No one who puts a hand to the plough and looks back is fit for the kingdom of God.'

Luke 9:61-62



## A Delayed Response

- » Putting off the decision to follow Jesus
- » A reasonable request (v61)



## A Proverbial Response

- » Can't plough looking backward



## Called to Go Forward

- » Full commitment needed
- » A radical response is needed
- » Respond to the call / no putting it off



The Christian marches on, not to the sunset, but to the dawn. The watchword of the kingdom is not, "Backwards!" but, "Forwards!" To this man Jesus did not say either, "Follow!" or, "Return!" he said,



"I accept no lukewarm service," and left the man to make his own decision.

William Barclay



## Setting Our Faces Toward Jerusalem

Going Forward



## There is a Cost

- » Count the cost in following Jesus
- » Not a casual game



## Keep Our Priorities Straight

- » The Kingdom of God supersedes other desires



## A Radical Intentionality

- » Full commitment required
- » Keep going forward

