

Discipleship

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I. Introduction.

A. Text: Luke 9.

B. Background

1. We live in a great and mighty universe.
2. God created this universe to be inhabited.
3. We live in an enemy occupied world - Satan is at war with Christ.
4. Jesus came to destroy the power of the Devil through the cross. He bore our sins on the cross. (Hebrews 2)

C. Jesus came to recruit for His cause, and there are three responses to His call.

II. Responses to the call of Jesus.

A. Mr. Too Quick.

1. This immediately seems to be a good choice.
2. Did the man really know where Jesus would go? He was going into hostility, betrayal and death. The man did not consider the path of Jesus.
3. Jesus warns not to be too quick.
4. Jesus challenges in that it was the kind of life He lived.
5. "He is no fool who gives what he cannot keep for what he cannot lose." (Jim Elliot, martyr)
6. "It does not take much to become a Christian. It takes all of him." (Dawson Trotman)

B. Mr. Too Slow.

1. He wanted to bury his father first.
2. A disciple is one who is identified with Christ and witnesses for Christ in his sphere of influence. Some are called in a special way outside of his sphere of influence.

3. Every Christian is called to full time actually, but some are called to a special kind of calling.
4. What would you say if today Christ called you?
5. “Me first” and “Lord” do not go together.
6. We must give ourselves to what we can do and what others cannot or will not.
7. The Bible teaches we are to honor our mother and father, but Jesus Christ comes first.
8. Christ must be more important than your spouse. Christ must be the one to arrange the romance.
9. What is going to be major in your life?

C. Mr. Half-Hearted.

1. Part of his heart was still back home, but Christ demanded the whole thing.
2. You cannot do a good job if you are half hearted.
3. Christ wants our whole-hearted commitment right where we are at.
4. A person who always looks back is retreat conscious.
5. There never was a feast without a sacrifice.

Application questions

1. Summarize the responses to Jesus. What separates them all? What makes them all alike?

2. Which of the three responders do you tend to be most like? Explain.

3. Have you ever really made yourself available to Christ as a career? What is keeping you from doing so today? If you are willing to now, write your commitment down here and share it with a friend.
