

The Cost of Discipleship

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I. Introduction.

- A. The Christian is asked to repudiate self and follow Jesus. (Luke 9:23)
- B. What is God's purpose for us? Man's chief end is to glorify God. (Isaiah 43:1-7)

II. How to become a man who glorifies God in everything.

- A. The way you become like a person is to spend lots of time with that individual.
- B. We must fellowship and be close with God in order to glorify Him in all that we do.
- C. We are to become more and more like Jesus, which involves:
 - 1. Time in the Bible. (I Samuel 3:21, II Corinthians 3:18)
 - 2. Prayer. God calls on us to call on Him. (John 14:21)
 - 3. Obedience. There is no fellowship with a superior apart from obedience. (Luke 6:46-47)

III. Fellowship with God is the only way that we can fulfill God's grand purpose.

- A. God looks for a dependent heart.
- B. Jesus Christ died to make it possible.
- C. This is spiritual growth... (II Peter 3:18, Acts 2:41)
 - 1. Your proper reaction to tests and trials of life provide for spiritual growth. (Romans 5, I Peter, James)
 - 2. Getting into God's Word provides for spiritual growth. (I Peter 2:3, Acts 20:2, Jeremiah 15:16, Matthew 4:4, Job 23:12)
 - 3. Growth is slow but we must meet the conditions of spiritual growth to grow.

IV. Surrender to Jesus Christ as the Lord of your lives. (John 13:30)

- A. To surrender to Jesus takes faith.
- B. To surrender you must have a great hunger to do the will of God.

Application questions:

1. How does one become like Jesus, and how does this look practically?

2. What does it mean to have a dependent heart?

3. What is spiritual growth? Defend your answer biblically.
