

Discipleship



Weekly Reflections
7th September 2025
23rd week in Ordinary time



A reading from the holy Gospel according to Luke 14: 25-33

At that time: Great crowds accompanied Jesus, and he turned and said to them, 'If anyone comes to me and does not hate his own father and mother, and wife and children, and brothers and sisters, yes, and even his own life, he cannot be my disciple. Whoever does not bear his own cross and come after me cannot be my disciple. For which of you, desiring to build a tower, does not first sit down and count the cost, whether he has enough to complete it? Otherwise, when he has laid a foundation and is not able to finish, all who see it begin to mock him, saying, "This man began to build and was not able to finish." Or what king, going out to encounter another king in war, will not sit down first and deliberate whether he is able with ten thousand to meet him who comes against him with twenty thousand? And if not, while the other is yet a great way off, he sends a delegation and asks for terms of peace. So therefore, any one of you who does not renounce all that he has cannot be my disciple.'

PRAYER FOR THE WEEK

Father of all,

You have called us to be your disciples. Through your grace you have welcomed us into your family, united in Christ. Allow us to continue in our task of making known the Good News of Christ to others. Grant your wisdom, guidance and inspiration so that many will hear and respond.
Amen

Day 1

Why do we want to be Jesus' followers when it can be such a difficult thing for us to do?

Day 2

What opportunities have you been given to put Jesus first? What right choices can you make this week?

Day 3

How can you be more **Intentional** and **Prophetic** with what you have, and share with others to be true disciples of Jesus?

Days of the week



To be a disciple of Jesus is not an easy thing to become and Jesus is fully aware of this. To live in the ways He teaches us can at times mean we go without, or we don't gain the full reward of our work. There is a cost to following Jesus and this cost is not just financial. It can be with our time, patience, knowledge and generosity. In the Gospel reading from Sunday, Jesus is asking us to think carefully about what is expected of us if we are to be His disciples. We have to love him totally and be really committed to living the way He has taught us - to love one another, to be forgiving and kind. The benefits make all the cost worthwhile.

Day 1

Why do we want to be Jesus' followers when it can be such a difficult thing for us to do?

Days of the week



We are given many opportunities in our lives to do good and follow Jesus. Jesus uses the strong language in the Gospel reading to explain to the disciples, and the crowd, the cost of following him. He invites all those who choose to be his followers to put him first, even if it means upsetting family members and friends. Discipleship may be demanding but it is not impossible to do. If we make the right choices and have the courage to put our lives on the line for them, then God promises us enriched lives.

Day 2

What opportunities have you been given to put Jesus first? What right choices can you make this week?

Days of the week



The Gospel reading may seem harsh and extreme, but it is asking us to look at our attitude towards life and ensuring it is right. There is always a cost of discipleship, and the concept of commitment may seem difficult for us to understand. Choosing to follow Jesus can often cost us some difficulties in our family and social lives. While most of us are not called to renounce all our worldly goods, we are expected to hold lightly onto our possessions. Reflect on which of your possessions mean the most to you? Do you find it hard to admit that what you have in excess rightly belongs to those who have nothing? What can you do this week to share some of your abundance with someone in need? How can you be more **Intentional** and **Prophetic** to share what you have with others around you?

Day 3

How can you be more **Intentional** and **Prophetic** with what you have, and share with others to be true disciples of Jesus?