

Discipleship

Lorne Sanny

I. Introduction.

A. Text: Luke 14.

B. Christ is the builder and the universe is watching. (Mark 3:2)

II. Christ is the Warrior King and the builder.

A. Christ is in warfare against Satan. (1 Timothy 6:16, Revelation 19, Luke 14)

B. We are involved in Christ's warfare. (Revelation 12:17, Genesis 3:15)

C. Christ came to destroy the works of the Devil. Christ defeated Satan at the cross.

1. We rarely let the great truth of the cross grip our soul.

2. Christ came to be the king of glory and set men free from the Devil. (Psalm 22, Isaiah 42:5, 49:25, 61)

D. Christ's plan is to redeem some so that they can go into the world and win some more people that He can count on. This is discipleship. (Luke 14, Matthew 16:18)

E. We are co-laborers in Christ's building and in the battle. (1 Corinthians 3, Acts 28:16)

1. Our objective is to engage in Christ's building and battle.

2. The objective of the Christian ministry is to win the lost and to edify the saved. If ministry does not meet these objectives, it is failing.

3. The only right a soldier has is to distinguish himself on the field of battle.

4. The objective of war is the destruction of enemy forces and his will to resist. It is not merely real estate.

F. The deepest threat to the West is that they are not acting upon their belief.

G. The enemy subtly attacks us by getting us concerned with peripheral matters.

H. Christ is the builder - we are only the sub-contractors. But only a disciple can share His ministry of building and battling.

III. The cost - the disciple must forsake everything to follow Christ.

A. This means the disciple must renounce everything that would make him independent of Christ.

B. Each time there was a new step of obedience for Abraham, God gave him a little more revelation to go by.

C. God tested Abraham to cleanse his relationship with Him. Have we “taken the knife” to that which is most valuable to us outside of Christ? (Genesis 22)

D. Complacency has become a great threat to the ministry.

1. The greatest challenges come in the easy times.

2. We must be careful to lose the love and humility from the beginning.

3. Cockiness and criticalness can overcome the ministry.

4. If we stop wrestling in prayer for one another, we will begin to wrestle with each other.

5. We must take steps to be of no reputation.

6. We need to put the knife to ourselves - this is where the sacrifice is. (Genesis 22)

Application questions.

1. Why is it that Christ is considered both builder and warrior? How do we relate to Him in this way?

2. What is the ‘cost’ of discipleship? What would you find hardest to give up for the call of Christ?

3. What is holding you back from following Christ whole-heartedly? Take some time to rededicate yourself to following Christ. Share what this means to you with a friend.
