



Sermon Notes: Makeover or Takeover

1. Following Jesus is comprehensive.

- a. Jesus' call applies to everyone.
- b. Jesus' call applies to everything.

2. Following Jesus is superlative.

- a. Jesus gets your fundamental allegiance.
- b. Jesus gets your fullest love.

3. Following Jesus is costly.

- a. It'll cost you your identity.
- b. It'll cost you your comfort and your agenda.

4. Following Jesus is mandatory.

5. Following Jesus is paradoxical.

- a. It's paradoxical because the one who commands you to lose yourself lost himself for you.
- b. It's paradoxical because dying to yourself is the only way to truly live.



Application Questions: Dinner with Jesus

1. How does the modern American Church (as a whole) functionally define discipleship? What do we act *as if* Jesus said? What qualities/actions do we tend to associate with mature disciples?
2. How did Jesus define *all* discipleship (not just mature disciples)? What qualities/actions did he highlight as necessary to *anyone* actually following him?
3. Compare and contrast #1 and #2. What is the Church getting right? What are we missing?
4. Reread the 3 “cannot” statements of *verses 26, 27, and 33*. How do these make you feel? How do you think they’d make the nonbelievers you know feel?
5. Referring to #4, why on earth would Jesus say these things? Other than sparing people from being unable to finish what they started, why does Jesus want all potential disciples to count the cost of following him?
6. Referring to #4, what does each of these statements mean (in your own words)? Which is easiest for you? Which is most difficult? Why?
7. What is self-determination? Explain how this prevents anyone from being a follower of Christ. In what areas of your life is self-determination the biggest temptation?
8. In *verses 32-33*, Jesus encourages surrendering if you foresee your inability to defeat a king in battle. What is he hinting will be the outcome of surrendering to him instead of fighting or running? *How* is this the outcome of surrender to Christ – and how does this impact the way you read all of his outlandish demands?
9. Talk about this statement: “*If you use Jesus to try to get the life you want, you’ll lose both; but if you use your life to get Jesus, you’ll gain both.*” Give some practical examples of how we tend to do the first part of this. How would it look different, day to day, to do the other?
10. What one thing will you do in response to Jesus’ call to discipleship this week?