



September 7, 2025

TODAY'S TOPIC:
COUNTING THE COST

WHAT ARE SOME THINGS YOU'VE PAID FOR WITH YOUR OWN MONEY? THERE WAS A COST SO YOU COULD HAVE THAT THING. COST DOESN'T ALWAYS HAVE TO DO WITH MONEY. IF YOU WANTED TO PLAY A SPORT, YOU MIGHT NEED TO BUY EQUIPMENT, GIVE UP FREE TIME TO GO TO PRACTICES, AND YOU'D HAVE TO WORK HARD TO GET GOOD AT IT.

IN THE BIBLE, JESUS TALKED ABOUT SOMETHING EXPONENTIALLY MORE WONDERFUL AND AMAZING THAT ALSO HAS A COST. JESUS TOLD HIS FRIENDS, THE DISCIPLES, THAT IF THEY WANTED TO FOLLOW HIM, THEY'D NEED TO THINK ABOUT THE COST (LUKE 14:25-33).



The Cost of Discipleship



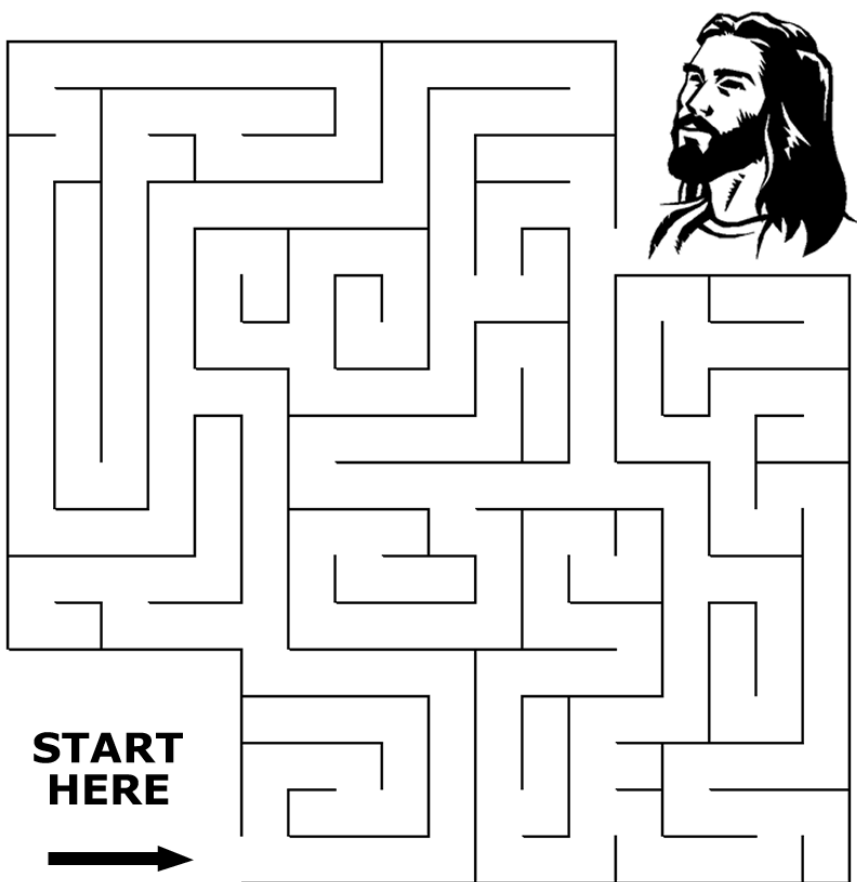
And anyone who does not carry his cross and follow me cannot be my disciple. Luke 14:27 (NIV)

Each number represents a letter of the alphabet. Substitute the correct letter for the numbers to reveal the coded words.

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	26
V	G	X	K	J	Y	E	U	Z	F	R	L	O	Q	I	H	T	A	W	N	P	S	D	M	C	B

1. 25-18-11-11-6 _____
2. 10-15-20-15-22-16 _____
3. 26-8-15-12-23 _____
4. 25-11-13-22-22 _____
5. 10-13-12-12-13-19 _____
6. 24-13-20-7-6 _____
7. 23-15-22-25-15-21-12-7 _____
8. 25-13-22-17 _____
9. 17-13-19-7-11 _____
10. 25-13-24-21-12-7-17-7 _____

DISCIPLE CROSS	BUILD FOLLOW	COST MONEY	TOWER FINISH	COMPLETE CARRY
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BEING JESUS' FOLLOWER IS AN IMPORTANT AND SPECIAL JOB, BUT JESUS SAID THERE'S ALSO A COST TO THINK ABOUT. HE SAID HIS DISCIPLES WOULD HAVE TO MAKE HIM MOST IMPORTANT IN THEIR LIVES, EVEN MORE IMPORTANT THAN FAMILY AND FRIENDS. HE ALSO SAID PEOPLE MIGHT MAKE FUN OF THEM OR HURT THEM FOR BEING HIS FOLLOWERS.

BEING A FOLLOWER OF JESUS IS NOT ALWAYS EASY, BUT IT'S ALWAYS THE VERY BEST THING WE CAN CHOOSE FOR OURSELVES. HE JUST WANTS US TO KNOW THERE'S A COST TO LIVING A LIFE AS JESUS' FOLLOWER, AND THAT'S TAKING UP OUR CROSSES.

The Cost of Discipleship

And anyone who does not carry his cross and follow me cannot be my disciple. Luke 14:27 (NIV)

The puzzle is based on Luke 14:25-33 (NIV).



K W M V S T W E S T I M A T E
S P U S E O T T O W E R C S D
Z J O K L E W P E C P L O P I
Z R C L L I A Z N A X U S H U
C U O P K T R X P R W C T K Y
M F M C V H O J R R O B E A Q
J O Y M C O U P G Y B L W N G
C L N Q P U O P R S P U Z N M
E V Y K E S A Z T I Q R I E B
C N O K A A F L C N Y L G L H
J R O I C N I S S E E R G S D
N E O U E D I P N V A N I G E
Z X S W G D V O A L S N N K X
I A I U D H M R S F I I W O Y
B V M C S S T C O F K D X O N

PEACE
FINISH
JESUS
CARRY

ENOUGH
CROWDS
WAR
COST

TRAVELING
COMPLETE
DISCIPLE
FOLLOW

TOWER
CROSS
BUILD
ESTIMATE

LARGE
MONEY
KING
THOUSAND