

# THE LIFE OF JESUS

Message 24  
The Cost  
July 2, 2017  
Josh Masters

## ► Discussion Guide

Use this guide to help you draw closer to God. Try not to rush through these questions, but take time to learn and grow. Ask God to reveal Himself to you. Find a Small Group at [brookwoodchurch.org/smallgroups](http://brookwoodchurch.org/smallgroups).

### Conversation Starter

Name a project, big or small, that you started but never finished.

### Personal Reflection / Group Discussion

Read [Luke 14:25-27](#) (The beginning of Reading #135 in *The Life of Jesus*).

1. Imagine you were in the crowd, traveling with Jesus and beginning to follow His teaching. How would you have reacted to His statements about *hating family and even your own life*?
2. His words are clearly hyperbole, since Jesus commands us to love even our enemies ([Luke 6:27-36](#)). So what is He really saying?
3. What sacrifices come with choosing what God wants over the wishes of another person? Give some examples.
4. *Finish this statement:* Having Jesus as the center of my life and the primary passion of my heart means...
5. Consider the weight of a cross. The crossbeam alone would have been about 100 lbs. Both beams together more than 300 lbs. Jesus says we must *carry our cross*. In what ways have you endured pain, sorrow or struggle because you have willingly followed Jesus? What's been most difficult for you being a follower of Christ?

Read [Luke 14:28-33](#) (continuing Reading #135 in *The Life of Jesus*).

6. Why is it important to *count the cost* of following Jesus?
7. How can money and possessions become a hindrance to following Jesus? Is there anything currently in your grip you need to release?

8. Do you see any hope-filled signs that God is freeing you from unhealthy soul ties to people, or from the grip of money and stuff? *Explain.*

Read [Luke 14:34-35](#) (continuing Reading #135 in *The Life of Jesus*).

The salt in Jesus' area came from the Dead Sea and could contain impurities that would cause it to lose its purpose (e.g., of adding flavor, or for being used as a preservative). When anyone who follows Jesus falters in their allegiance to Him, they lose their purpose.

9. How clear are you on God's purpose for your life? Can you write out your unique mission?
10. What impact would you love to make in the world, the church or in someone's life this year? What's stopping you?

### Soul Training

Read the Bible every day this week. Before reading, spend a few moments in silence. Ask God to quiet your heart and help you hear His voice as you read.

### Memory Verse

*Whoever does not bear his own cross and come after Me cannot be My disciple.*

[Luke 14:27 \(HCSB\)](#)

### Daily Reading

Day	<i>The Life of Jesus</i> Reading #	or	Bible Reference
July 3	134		<a href="#">Luke 14:15-24</a>
July 4	135		<a href="#">Luke 14:25-35</a>
July 5	136-137		<a href="#">Matthew 18:12-14</a> ; <a href="#">Luke 15:1-7</a> ; <a href="#">Luke 15:8-10</a>
July 6	138		<a href="#">Luke 15:11-32</a>
July 7	139		<a href="#">Luke 16:1-18</a>

### Prepare for Next Sunday

On Sunday, July 9, we'll look at some of life's toughest questions as *Jesus Raises Lazarus from the Dead*. Read [John 11:1-44](#) (Reading #142 in *The Life of Jesus*).



580 Brookwood Point Place • Simpsonville SC 29681  
864.688.8200 • [brookwoodchurch.org](http://brookwoodchurch.org)