

THE RED ZONE

Text: Luke 14:25-35

Introduction: Christians are not just members of the Body of Christ, we are disciples (Matthew 28:19). Jesus has no use in His army for any person who does not bear the marks of a Christian. He also has no use for one who does not meet His demands for discipleship (Read Text). You cannot be a genuine disciple of Christ unless you continue in His Word. When we are on the goal line, in the red zone, and ready to score, we need to consider four things to assure our victory

Discussion:

I. DIE TO SELF & GUARD AGAINST SELFISHNESS (v.26)

- A. The greatest commandment is proclaimed here (Matthew 23:37, Exodus 20:3).
- B. The golden rule is proclaimed here (Matthew 7:12, Matthew 23:38).
- C. The respect of God is proclaimed here (Matthew 10:37, Deuteronomy 13:6-10).
- D. The love of God is proclaimed here (II Timothy 3:2-3, Luke 2:48-49, Matthew 12:47-50).
- E. The glory of God is proclaimed here (Matthew 6:33).

II. DEMONSTRATE YOUR ATTITUDE BY SERVICE (vs.27-32)

- A. The cross speaks of sacrifice (John 3:16, John 15:12-13, Romans 12:1-2).
- B. The cross speaks of suffering (I Peter 2:21-24, I Peter 4:14-16).
- C. The cross speaks of salvation (II Corinthians 5:21, Mark 16:15-16).

III. DEDICATE YOURSELF TO SACRIFICE (v.33)

- A. A true disciple knows what to forsake (I Corinthians 3:11).
- B. A true disciple knows his foundation (Ephesians 1:3).
- C. A true disciple will finish the task at hand (Luke 14:28).

IV. DEVOTE YOURSELF TO STEADFASTNESS (vs.34-35)

- A. A true disciple will want to be fruitful (John 15:1-8).
- B. A true disciple will want to be faithful (Revelation 2:10).

Conclusion: A true disciple of Christ knows the demands of discipleship. He is one who has the proper attitude toward self, service, sacrifice, and steadfastness. The Lord expects nothing less than our best and requires complete commitment. We simply have to allow His will to be fulfilled in our lives. Are you a disciple of Christ? Are you a faithful disciple?