

How To Go To War

“The Story of the Prepared King”

(Sermon by Ray Reynolds on 8/9/09 - PM)

Text: **Luke 14:31-32**



Introduction: The former parable (the tower) sets the tone for this parable. Both parables have to do with counting the costs of discipleship. Remember the context must be considered (vs.26-27, 34-35). Disciples must place Christ and His kingdom first on their priority list. This will help their works to be fruitful and worthwhile. If a person does not procrastinate, and is prepared, they have a great chance to be successful. Let's study

Discussion :

I. PREPARATION = Considering Your Actions

Haggai 1:5, 7 says, “consider your ways.”

I Corinthians 1:26 says, “consider your calling”

II. PREPARATION = Resolving the Conflict

Jesus said, “Have salt within yourselves and have peace with one another” (**Mark 9:50**)

Jesus encouraged His disciples to be peacemakers (**Matthew 5:9**).

Jesus promises to His disciples in **John 16:33**: “in Me you may have peace.”

Mark's gospel records the context (**Mark 8:14-30**).

III. PREPARATION = Clearing Your Mind & Your Schedule

F.A.I.T.H. – Forsaking All I Trust Him

Luke 9:62 says, “No one who puts his hand to the plow and looks back is fit for the kingdom of God.”

We need to clear our mind and then fill it with positive thoughts (**Philippians 4:8**).

I Peter 5:6 says, “Humble yourselves, therefore, under God's mighty hand, that he may lift you up in due time.”

IV. PREPARATION = Committing to God's Provision

God's ways are higher than our ways (**Isaiah 55:8-9**).

We must follow Him wherever He leads us (**John 21:18**).

Paul talked about the good fight of faith (**I Timothy 1:18, 6:12, II Timothy 4:7**).

He was committed under His commander and chief (**Ephesians 6:10-20**).

Conclusion: When you go to war you need to be prepared. Not prepared to fight, but prepared to consider your actions, resolve the conflict, keep a clear mind and schedule, and be committed to God. Are you ready to serve the Lord's army? Have you truly counted the cost of discipleship? Don't rush into the fight until you have properly prepared for war!

WORD OF THE DAY = “PREPARE”