

Gospel Study

Opening Prayer: Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name; thy kingdom come; thy will be done on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread; and forgive us our trespasses as we forgive those who trespass against us; and lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. Amen.

Ice Breaker Question: Highs and Lows or What is your current favorite musical group or song?

Luke 14:25-33

25 "Great crowds were traveling with him, and he turned and addressed them, 26 "If any one comes to me without hating his father and mother, wife and children, brothers and sisters, and even his own life, he cannot be my disciple. 27 Whoever does not carry his own cross and come after me cannot be my disciple. 28 Which of you wishing to construct a tower does not first sit down and calculate the cost to see if there is enough for its completion? 29 Otherwise, after laying the foundation and finding himself unable to finish the work the onlookers should laugh at him 30 and say, 'This one began to build but did not have the resources to finish. 31 Or what king marching into battle would not first sit down and decide whether with ten thousand troops he can successfully oppose another king advancing upon him with twenty thousand troops? 32 But if not, while he is still far away, he will send a delegation to ask for peace terms. 33 In the same way, everyone of you who does not renounce all his possessions cannot be my disciple."

Questions:

1. What does Jesus mean we must "[hate our] father and mother, wife and children, brothers and sisters" to be a disciple?
2. What does it mean to carry your cross?
3. Verse 27 says we must carry our own cross but in Matthew 11:28-30, Jesus says to take up his yoke instead. Why the seeming contradiction?
Matthew 11:28-30 "Come to me, all you who labor and are burdened, and I will give you rest. Take my yoke upon you and learn from me, for I am meek and humble of heart; and you will find rest for your selves. For my yoke is easy, and my burden light."
4. What is the significance that in both examples (builder and king) each person does not have enough resources to finish?
5. In our lives, what does it mean practically speaking, to live as a disciple?
6. What stands in the way of me becoming a true disciple as Jesus talks about in this passage?

Intercessions & Closing Prayer: Memorare

REMEMBER, O most gracious Virgin Mary, that never was it known that anyone who fled to thy protection, implored thy help, or sought thy intercession was left unaided. Inspired with this confidence, I fly to thee, O Virgin of virgins, my Mother; to thee do I come; before thee I stand, sinful and sorrowful. O Mother of the Word Incarnate, despise not my petitions, but in thy mercy hear and answer me. Amen.