

WHAT THE GOSPEL COSTS

Luke 14:25-33

Pleasing God does not come cheap.

I. IT COST GOD HIS SON.

A. **John 3:16; 1st John 4:8, 10, 19**

God lovingly gave His Son.

B. **John 10:11; Galatians 1:3-4; Matthew 20:28; 1st Timothy 2:3-6; Titus 2:14**

Jesus willingly gave Himself.

C. **Matthew 26:36-42**

Make no mistake: this was not easy for Him!

D. **Romans 5:8; Hebrews 2:9**

Man was undeserving of this gift.

II. IT COST THE EARLY DISCIPLES THEIR SAFETY AND VERY LIVES.

A. **Acts 4:1-21**

The apostles were imprisoned and severely threatened, but would not stop proclaiming the gospel.

B. **Acts 5:17-33, 40-42**

The apostles were imprisoned and beaten, yet they persisted in preaching Christ.

C. **Acts 6:8-7:1; 7:54-60**

They slandered Stephen, arrested him, and executed him for speaking the truth.

D. **Acts 8:1-4; 9:1-2; 26:9-11; 11:19-21**

The church was persistently and severely persecuted so that many Christians left their homelands while others were arrested and sentenced to death, yet they kept right on spreading the Word.

III. IT WILL COST US, TOO.

A. **Luke 9:23-26**

There will be hardship.

B. **Matthew 5:10-12; 2nd Timothy 3:10-12; 1st Peter 4:12-16**

We can expect to be persecuted.

C. **1st Peter 2:11-12; Titus 2:11-12; 1st John 2:15-17; Hebrews 11:24-26**

We should learn to deny ourselves the desires of this world.

D. **James 4:4-5; Matthew 6:24; 12:30**

God tolerates no competition. To be His friend, we must forsake friendship with the world.

E. **Matthew 10:34-37**

It may cost us peace within our own family.

F. **John 12:42-43**

The gospel definitely costs us the approval of the world. There is to be little popularity among those who obey Christ.

G. **Romans 12:1-2; 1st Corinthians 6:19-20**

Our bodies must be reserved for God's use.

CONCLUSION

A. **Mark 8:36-37**

The gospel is worth everything.

B. **James 1:12**

There are blessings to be received for endurance.

C. **Revelation 2:10**

Faithfulness ultimately results in reward.