

Can you think of some examples of what it might look like for people to love Jesus above their own families, possessions, lives?

What might it mean for you, in these areas?

being a student

finding a job

who you choose to marry

where you live

how you use your spare time

how you serve others in ministry

**If you are not a Christian...**

What have you learnt today about what it means to follow Jesus?

How will you respond?

Ask someone you know who is a Christian, why they think following Jesus is worth the cost.

**If you are a Christian...**

Are you following Jesus on his terms, as your first love?  
Or is he just one “part” of your life?

Is there anything in your life that you could not give up for Jesus?

**Pray**

Ask God to give you a heart that sees the value of following Jesus before everything else, and is ready to accept the cost.

# The cost of following Jesus



## Luke's story of Jesus chapter 14:25-35



Bible studies 2013

## Discuss

Coming to Australia to study as an international student is a serious commitment. How/why did you make this decision? What were some of the “costs” you had to accept? How would you feel if you failed your course at Monash and had to return home without graduating?

## The story so far...

Jesus was born to be a King and a Saviour. But not the normal kind of king – Jesus said that to be a King and save his people he would have to die on a cross! So far in Luke’s account of Jesus, Jesus’ teachings and miracles have amazed everyone. Many people love him, but others do not accept him or his teaching. Now Jesus is heading to the capital, Jerusalem, where he will be arrested and killed. As he travels there he is teaching us what it means to follow him...

Read **Luke 14:25-35**.

Are there any words you’re not sure about?



## All or nothing

**Luke 14:25-27**

What are the conditions of following Jesus?

Is Jesus really asking us to hate our families (v26)? What does he mean?

**Think...**

## If you are not a Christian...

How would your parents respond if you became a Christian?

## If you are a Christian...

How would your parents respond if you became a full-time Christian worker?

What does it mean to carry your cross (v27)?

Jesus’ words are very challenging! Is following Jesus worth the cost? Why/why not? What right does Jesus have to demand this kind of commitment?

## Count the cost

**Luke 14:28-33**

Jesus uses two stories to teach us something about what it means to follow him. What point is he making?

Three times, Jesus gives reasons why someone “cannot be my disciple” (v26, 27, 33). It sounds like Jesus is trying to discourage people from following him! Why do you think he has such strong words to say?

*(Optional: How might this influence how we do evangelism: at FOCUS, with our friends, in our churches?)*