



Sermon Outline
January 14, 2024
Pastor Bryan Myers

Count the Cost

Matthew 8:18-22

* **Series definition of encounter:** *An impromptu but God appointed life-changing interaction with Jesus in the gospels.*

* **Encounter Challenge:** Read the four accounts of Jesus' life in **Matthew, Mark, Luke & John** by the end of March.

Encounter #2

Matthew 8:18-22 - When Jesus saw the crowd around him, he gave orders to cross to the other side of the lake. Then a teacher of the law came to him and said, "Teacher, I will follow you wherever you go." Jesus replied, "Foxes have dens and birds have nests, but the Son of Man has no place to lay his head." Another disciple said to him, "Lord, first let me go and bury my father." But Jesus told him, "Follow me, and let the dead bury their own dead."

Encounter Observations:

1. For Jesus, large crowds were never the _____.
They were only the _____.

Mark 6:34 - When Jesus landed and saw a large crowd, he had compassion on them, because they were like sheep without a shepherd. So he began teaching them many things.

2. Jesus apparently felt it was time to DTR – _____
The Relationship.

a. Following Him isn't for _____.

John 6:26 - Jesus answered, "Very truly I tell you, you are looking for me, not because you saw the signs I performed but because you ate the loaves and had your fill."

* *Years of church attendance doesn't equal maturity in Christ.*

* **Being part of the crowd means you're in attendance.**
It doesn't mean you're a _____.

b. Following Him will require _____.

* *Jesus never offered the option of **selective** commitment.*

Luke 14:33 - In the same way, those of you who do not give up **everything** you have cannot be my disciples.

* *Jesus was always direct with those who wanted to follow Him. He made sure they counted the cost and laid everything aside so nothing would hinder their journey with Him.*

Matthew 19:22 - When the young man heard this, he went away sad, because he had great wealth.

c. He wasn't interested in _____.

* **Basic definition of a fan:** *"An enthusiastic _____."*

* **Fans want the relationship to be on _____ terms.**

Vs. 21 - Another disciple said to him, "Lord, first let me go and bury my father."

d. He was and is seeking _____ followers.

* **The real question to ask is this:**

How does Jesus _____ what it means to follow him?

Matthew 16:24 - Then Jesus said to his disciples, "Whoever wants to be my disciple must deny themselves and take up their cross and follow me."

* **Jesus defined what it means to follow Him as:**

- **Passionate** _____.
- _____ **surrender.**
- **Everyday** _____.

In other words:

_____ **ever,** _____ **ever,** _____ **ever.**

* *These outer signs point to an inner reality that you love Jesus _____ than anything else.*



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