



INTRODUCTION

Following the teachings of Christ has lots of benefits—financial security, relational stability, moral margin. But at some point, being a Christian will cost you something. You'll feel a nudge to start, stop, get out of, or maybe go. In this message, Andy reframes the choices you have when following Christ begins to cost you something. Will it be worth it to give in to the nudge?

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

1. Do you think you're a consumer Christian or a follower of Jesus? Why?
2. What do you worry most about losing if you follow Jesus?
3. Has following Jesus ever cost you anything? Explain.
4. Read Mark 8:36. Jesus' wisdom seems self-evident, so why is it so difficult to live out?
5. What parts of your life do you think would change the most if you began following Jesus?

MOVING FORWARD

If you're a consumer Christian, looking to Jesus for what he can do for you, that's okay. That's where everyone's Christian faith begins. But Jesus calls you to follow him. Doing so will cost you—in career, money, status, or relationships. The thing is, whatever it costs you is something you're going to lose anyway.

Death eventually separates you from everything you work so hard to get and protect. But following Jesus gives you a life of meaning, purpose, and contentment.

CHANGING YOUR MIND

Then he called the crowd to him along with his disciples and said: "Whoever wants to be my disciple must deny themselves and take up their cross and follow me."

Matthew 8:34