

Only Jesus Is Worthy
12-18-2016

Luke 14:25-27

Now great crowds accompanied him, and he turned and said to them, 26 "If anyone comes to me and does not hate his own father and mother and wife and children and brothers and sisters, yes, and even his own life, he cannot be my disciple. 27 Whoever does not bear his own cross and come after me cannot be my disciple.

Today is the official send-off for Kyle and Shelly Danielson. They are heading to TETM.

- They are very loved by LEFC & they love LEFC, but they love Jesus more than a secure future, good friends, family nearby.
 - So why would anyone leave this (32 below) for Texas?

Only Jesus is worthy to be treasured above all else! Mt 10:37-39, Lk 14:26-27

- Love can be used as an excuse not to serve God. Lk 9:57-62
 - Fear of offending parents/children, end relationship/friendship.
 - Love for Jesus should be so strong that all other loves are like hatred in comparison.
- Commitment to and love for Jesus must be paramount, whatever the cost in relationships or anything else may be.
 - In the Greek, "life" (psuche), refers to soul- the part of person that includes personality with all its dreams, hopes, & goals.
 - Many are 'bargain hunters'.....wanting the most for the least amount of cost.
 - Sometimes it is easier to die for Jesus than to live for Him!
- Living for Him does not just happen to us but it is something we choose.
 - "bearing our cross" not mean hardships/tragedies that come in life.
 - It does mean willingly & joyfully sacrificing good things (time, plans, comfort) to better glorify/serve Him. Mt 13:44-46, Heb 12:1-2, 2 Tim 2:4
 - The root of your salvation glorifies God privately, but the fruit of your salvation glorifies God publicly.

We need to treasure Him above all else because He alone is above all else.,

- He is the exalted Creator (Col 1:16-18), humble God (Phil 2:6), infinite, omnipotent, omnipresent, omniscient, all wise, He rules & reigns over heaven/earth/hell,
 - He upholds the universe, heals the sick, saves the lost, and commands the weather,
 - He is without sin in thought/word/deed/attitude.
 - He never changes, never lies, never breaks a promise.
 - He is full of grace, mercy, patience, love
- What an honor it is to joyfully serve such a King & live a life devoted to Christ rather than chasing after the frivolous comforts/pleasures & worldly advancements.

- Find your joy & satisfaction in all that God is for you in Jesus and the gospel.

If it costs us all, what is that in comparison with what it cost Jesus to purchase our salvation which comes to us without price? 2 Cor. 8:9; Rom. 8:32,

- Hudson Taylor was a missionary to China for 50 yrs. said "I never made a sacrifice."

In response to who Jesus is & what He has done for us—we treasure Him above all else no matter the cost & desire to make much of Him in all we do.

- This does not mean everyone must become a pastor/missionary or full-time Christian service.
 - If called to trust God's timing & provision. 3 yrs. ago Kyle was saying he thinks he should be going to TETM. At that time it was not the right timing for that. Now 3 years later he will be serving there.
- This means giving your life to what will remain for all eternity.
 - 4 things are eternal: God Himself (Ps. 90:2), God's Word. (Mk 13:31), People's souls (Jn. 3:16), Godly character (1 Tim 4:8).
 - Dietrich Bonhoeffer: "Give your life for what He gave His life to, the glory of God & the good of others." Col 3:17

So what are you giving your life to? Phil 3:7-8, Mk 10:28-30

- Only Jesus is worthy. He is the greatest treasure, He is worth giving up all for.