

Luke 9

Submitted by Lillian Howard

HIGHLIGHT: Luke 9: 57-62

“As they were walking along the road, a man said to him, “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.” He said to another man, “Follow me.” But he replied, “Lord, first let me go and bury my father.” Jesus said to him, “Let the dead bury their own dead, but you go and proclaim the kingdom of God.” Still another said, “I will follow you, Lord; but first let me go back and say goodbye to my family.” Jesus replied, “No one who puts a hand to the plow and looks back is fit for service in the kingdom of God.”

EXPLAIN:

The title to this passage in Scripture is “The Cost of Following Jesus”.

Jesus is traveling toward Jerusalem. He knows His suffering is coming. Along the journey three people talk with Him about following Him. In each conversation, Jesus reveals the excuses that keep people from truly being His disciples. He wants them to know the cost of following requires ultimate loyalty, sacrificial obedience and an undivided heart. He states that we must keep our eyes on the plow and make a straight line to Him.

APPLY: The gospel of Jesus Christ is freely given, but discipleship cost everything.

Following Jesus means removing everything that competes with my commitment to Him—my comfort, my time, my relationships. Like a farmer who must fix his eyes on a single point to plow a straight line, I must keep my eyes fixed on Jesus to guide my every decision. When He is my focus, my priorities stay straight, and my steps aim directly toward Him.

RESPOND:

Lord Jesus,

Thank You for calling me to follow You. You know how easily my attention is captured by comfort, fear, old patterns, and the desire to please others. Help me remove anything that stands in the way of my commitment to You—every excuse and every pull that draws my heart in another direction. Give me a willing spirit to obey You alone, obeying promptly and with a steady heart that does not look back. Teach me to keep my eyes fixed on You, just as a farmer fixes his gaze on a straight point while plowing. Be the focus that guides every choice I make. Make my priorities clear, my steps steady, and my love for You undivided.

I want to follow You fully, faithfully, and with my whole heart.

In Jesus Name,
Amen.

