

The Costs of Discipleship  
Matthew 8:14-27

Review:

1. We must put Jesus ahead of our comforts and popularity, remembering that He was despised and rejected for us and that He is able to bring us the comfort and healing we need.
2. We must put Jesus ahead of our family responsibilities, remembering that He was abandoned by His friends and family, and that He has complete authority over all human relationships
3. We must trust Jesus even in the most dangerous circumstances, remembering that He embraced the cross for us and that He holds absolute authority over all the forces of nature.

Go further: Read Isaiah 52:13-53:12

1. What does 52:13 say that God's Servant will do? How will He be rewarded for His actions?
2. Why does 52:14 say that people will be astonished at the Servant's appearance?
3. What does 52:13 say He will do for the nations?
4. How does 52:13 say that the kings of the earth will react to the Servant and why?
5. How does 53:2 describe the origins of the Servant? How does it describe His appearance?
6. What reaction does 53:3 say that people will have to the Servant?
7. What does 53:4 say the Servant will do for the people? What will they think about Him?
8. Why does 53:5 say the Servant is wounded and bruised? What effects will His actions have on the people?
9. What does Isaiah say all the people have done in 53:6? What did the Lord do as a result?
10. What does 53:7 say was the Servant's reaction to being oppressed and afflicted?
11. From where does 53:8 say the Servant was taken? From where was He cut off?
12. With what two kinds of people does 53:9 say the Servant was associated in His death?
13. What does 53:9 insist that the Servant has not done?
14. Who does 53:10 say is ultimately responsible for the death of the Servant?
15. What sort of an offering does the Servant make and for what reason?
16. After the Servant makes this offering, what shall He see? How does 53:10 describe His days?
17. What are the results that 53:11 says will happen because of the Servant's offering?
18. What sorts of blessings does 53:12 say God will give to the Servant?
19. What four reasons does God give for the Servant receiving these blessings?

Apply:

1. Many people reject Christ's example of sacrificial suffering, thus despising Him (53:3). What sorts of sacrifices have you been hesitant to make for His glory or the good of others?
2. What things do you think God is calling you to give up in order to follow Jesus?
3. How does thinking about Christ's suffering for you make it easier for you to follow Him into dangerous situations? What risks do you think God is calling you to make to glorify Him and bring others to faith in Him?