

# Bible Study

## Quick recap

The meeting was a Bible study discussion focused on Luke 14, where Michael led the group through a detailed analysis of Jesus's teachings about the cost of discipleship. Michael explained how following Christ requires "hating" family relationships and prioritizing God above all else, using examples from successful people who sacrifice personal relationships for their careers. The group discussed how true discipleship is not just being a "customer" of Christianity but becoming a dedicated follower who wants to emulate Jesus in all aspects of life. Michael shared stories of Christian persecution from history and current events to illustrate the high cost of following Christ, emphasizing that being a true disciple means being "dead to the pursuits of this world" and living solely for God's kingdom.

## Next steps

### Michael

- Send the link to Luke 14 and the notes from the discussion to the group chat. 📄
- Send information about Voice of the Martyrs and how to receive their magazine to Kenny, Kirsten, and Jonathan. 📄

## Summary

### Travel Plans and Reading Schedule

Michael and Jonathan discussed Michael's preparations for Brandon's upcoming visit, including travel arrangements to South Africa. Jonathan mentioned his reading plan for the day, which included the New Testament, Revelation, Old Testament, and Psalms. They briefly discussed their busy schedules for the day.

### RV Park Project Updates

Michael discussed multiple ongoing projects at the RV park, including work on 10 new spots and converting the white house backyard into two additional spots for long-term campers. He mentioned hooking up a camper to a truck and scheduled work on garages, with a Russian contractor fixing the outside garage and another person redoing the inside garage. Michael also noted upcoming preparations for a large 4th of July event expected to attract around 100 people with elaborate fireworks displays.

## **Renovations and July Visitors Discussion**

Michael discussed renovations and upcoming visitors, including a large group expected for the 4th of July. He shared a message from George about imitating Christ and being a good example to others. Michael reflected on the costs and expectations of following Jesus, expressing a desire to discuss Luke 14 with another group.

## **Luke 14 Bible Study Discussion**

Michael led a Bible study focused on Luke 14, discussing Jesus's teachings about healing on the Sabbath and the parable of the great supper. He explained how Jesus's message connects to the earlier verse in Luke 13:34 about Jerusalem, emphasizing Jesus's longing to gather his people but their reluctance to follow. Michael emphasized that true discipleship requires costly commitment, distinguishing between being a customer of Christianity and being a true disciple who seeks to emulate Jesus's life and teachings.

## **Cost of Following Jesus**

Michael discussed the cost of following Jesus using Luke 14:25 as a reference, comparing it to the sacrifices required for worldly success. He explained that successful people often prioritize their careers over relationships, citing examples like Kim Kardashian and Kanye West who spent limited time together. Michael emphasized that Jesus was not describing an uncommon sacrifice, but rather the same costly commitment required in any successful pursuit, whether it be fishing, business, or other endeavors.

## **Cost of Success and Discipleship**

Michael discussed the cost of success, using examples from successful individuals like Shannon Sharpe and comparing them to Jesus's teachings about discipleship. He explained

how pursuing success in either the world or the kingdom requires sacrifices, including relationships and personal comfort. The group agreed that choosing between pursuing worldly success or following God involves a personal decision about priorities and values.