

Staying Power

Luke 14:27-33

January 27, 2016

²⁷ "And anyone who does not carry his cross and follow Me cannot be My disciple. ²⁸ "Suppose one of you wants to build a tower. Will he not first sit down and estimate the cost to see if he has enough money to complete it? ²⁹ For if he lays the foundation and is not able to finish it, everyone who sees it will ridicule him, ³⁰ saying, 'This fellow began to build and was not able to finish.' ³¹ "Or suppose a king is about to go to war against another king. Will he not first sit down and consider whether he is able with ten thousand men to oppose the one coming against him with twenty thousand? ³² If he is not able, he will send a delegation while the other is still a long way off and will ask for terms of peace. ³³ In the same way, any of you who does not give up everything he has cannot be My disciple." Luke 14:27-33 (NIV)

"Always bear in mind that your own _____ to _____ is more important than any other thing."
Abraham Lincoln

Making the Decision

√ Count the _____

"Suppose one of you wants to build a tower. Will he not first sit down and estimate the cost to see if he has enough money to complete it?" Luke 14:28 (NIV)

Steps:

1. C _____
 - S _____
 - F _____
 - P _____
 - R _____

2. C _____

"...first getting estimates..." (LB)

"...working out the cost..." (Ph)

3. C _____

Being confident of this, that He who began a good work in you will carry it on to completion until the day of Christ Jesus.

Philippians 1:6 (NIV)

Why Am I Here? _____

√ Determine to _____ the _____.

"In the same way, any of you who does not give up everything he has cannot be My disciple." Luke 14:33 (NIV)

Plans fail for lack of counsel, but with many advisers they succeed. Proverbs 15:22 (NIV)

What will it take? _____

√ Always strive for _____.

"For if he lays the foundation and is not able to finish it, everyone who sees it will ridicule him, saying, 'This fellow began to build and was not able to finish.'" Luke 14:29-30 (NIV)

Whatever you do, work at it with all your heart, as working for the Lord, not for men. Colossians 3:23 (NIV)

How can I step up? _____

Managing the Discipline

1. Expect my commitment to be a _____.

Consider it pure joy, my brothers, whenever you face trials of many kinds. James 1:2 (NIV)

Dear friends, do not be surprised at the painful trial you are suffering, as though something strange were happening to you. But rejoice that you participate in the sufferings of Christ, so that you may be overjoyed when his glory is revealed.

1 Peter 4:12-13 (NIV)

Who is he that condemns? Christ Jesus, who died—more than that, who was raised to life—is at the right hand of God and is also interceding for us. Romans 8:34 (NIV)

2. Determine to _____ hard.

All hard work brings a profit... Proverbs 14:23 (NIV)

Go to the ant, you sluggard; consider its ways and be wise! Proverbs 6:6 (NIV)

What does hard work look like?

- T _____
- P _____
- R _____
- L _____
- E _____

3. Focus on _____ not _____.

Going a little farther, He fell with His face to the ground and prayed, "My Father, if it is possible, may this cup be taken from Me. Yet not as I will, but as You will." Then He returned to His disciples and found them sleeping. "Could you men not keep watch with Me for one hour?" He asked Peter. "Watch and pray so that you will not fall into temptation. The spirit is willing, but the body is weak." Matthew 26:39-41 (NIV)

4. Stay _____ on the goal.

Let your eyes look straight ahead, fix your gaze directly before you. Make level paths for your feet and take only ways that are firm. Do not swerve to the right or the left. Proverbs 4:25-27 (NIV)

Remember: Spiritual, Financial, Professional and Relational

5. Strengthen my _____ life.

Those who live according to the sinful nature have their minds set on what that nature desires; but those who live in accordance with the Spirit have their minds set on what the Spirit desires. The mind of sinful man is death, but the mind controlled by the Spirit is life and peace. Romans 8:5-6 (NIV)

"Nothing is easier than saying _____.
Nothing is harder that _____ them, day after day."
Arthur Gordon