

**Luke**  
**See Jesus**  
**First Things First**  
**Luke 9:57-62**

*Grace Fellowship Church / Pastor Peter LaRuffa / Nov. 7, 2021*

**I. Beware of good things that keep you from being a true disciple of Jesus!**

**3 Good Things That Can Hinder Discipleship**

A. Jesus must be more important to you than the **comforts of home**.

**Luke 9:57-58** “As they were going along the road, someone said to Him, ‘I will follow You wherever you go.’<sup>58</sup> And Jesus said to him, ‘Foxes have holes, and birds of the air have nests, but the Son of Man has nowhere to lay His head.’”

- a. The people of Jesus’ hometown tried to kill Him.

**Luke 4:29** “And they rose up and drove Him out of the town and brought Him to the brow of the hill on which their town was built, so that they could throw Him down the cliff.”

- b. Even after Jesus miraculously blessed people, He was still driven away.

**Luke 8:37** “Then all the people of the surrounding country of the Gerasenes asked Him to depart from them, for they were seized with great fear. So He got into the boat and returned.”

- c. Jesus was regularly rejected by people.

**Luke 9:51-53** “When the days drew near for Him to be taken up, He set His face to go to Jerusalem.<sup>52</sup> And He sent messengers ahead of Him, who went and entered a village of the Samaritans, to make preparations for Him.<sup>53</sup> But the people did not receive Him, because His face was set toward Jerusalem.”

B. Jesus must be more important to you than the **security of money**.

**Luke 9:59-60** “To another He said, ‘Follow Me.’ But he said, ‘Lord, let me first go and bury my father.’<sup>60</sup> And Jesus said to him, ‘Leave the dead to bury their own dead. But as for you, go and proclaim the kingdom of God.’”

True disciples of Jesus are willing to leave everything in order to follow Jesus.

**Matthew 19:27** “Then Peter said in reply, ‘See, **we have left everything** and followed You. What then will we have?’”

**Luke 5:11, 28** “And when they had brought their boats to land, **they left everything** and followed Him...<sup>28</sup> And **leaving everything**, he rose and followed Him.”

C. Jesus must be more important to you than **the people you love**.

**Luke 9:61-62** “Yet another said, ‘I will follow You, Lord, but let me first say farewell to those at

my home.’<sup>62</sup> Jesus said to him, ‘No one who puts his hand to the plow and looks back is fit for the kingdom of God.’”

No earthly relationship can be prioritized over a true disciple’s relationship with Jesus.

**Luke 14:26** “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.”

## II. True discipleship only occurs when Jesus is first — above all, before all, forever!

**Luke 9:62** “Jesus said to him, ‘No one who puts his hand to the plow and looks back is **fit** for the kingdom of God.’”

The Greek word εὐθετος (*euthetos*) translated “fit” is better understood as “usable” or “useful.”

True disciples of Jesus make every effort to prioritize Christ above all else so they can intently focus on the task at hand: ***making disciples who make disciples.***

**Matthew 28:19-20** “Go therefore and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit,<sup>20</sup> teaching them to observe all that I have commanded you. And behold, I am with you always, to the end of the age.”

### Questions for Personal Reflection and/or Community Group Discussion

1. How is following Jesus difficult for you?
2. Which of the 3 good things mentioned above hinder you from wholehearted commitment to Jesus? What other things could you add to your list?
3. What changes should you make to ensure Jesus is prioritized, not just in your “top 3,” but first and foremost in your life?
4. After hearing the sermon and reading through Luke 9:57-62, how would you answer a person who asked you “What is a Christian?”
5. How do you personally respond to Jesus’ command “Follow Me?”