

Discussion & Reflection Questions
Brave Unknown - Week 4 - Pentecost 13C - 7th September 2025

Read: Luke 14:25-35

Now large crowds were travelling with him; and he turned and said to them, ²⁶ ‘Whoever comes to me and does not hate father and mother, wife and children, brothers and sisters, yes, and even life itself, cannot be my disciple. ²⁷ Whoever does not carry the cross and follow me cannot be my disciple. ²⁸ For which of you, intending to build a tower, does not first sit down and estimate the cost, to see whether he has enough to complete it? ²⁹ Otherwise, when he has laid a foundation and is not able to finish, all who see it will begin to ridicule him, ³⁰ saying, “This fellow began to build and was not able to finish.” ³¹ Or what king, going out to wage war against another king, will not sit down first and consider whether he is able with ten thousand to oppose the one who comes against him with twenty thousand? ³² If he cannot, then, while the other is still far away, he sends a delegation and asks for the terms of peace. ³³ So therefore, none of you can become my disciple if you do not give up all your possessions. ³⁴ ‘Salt is good; but if salt has lost its taste, how can its saltiness be restored? ³⁵ It is fit neither for the soil nor for the manure heap; they throw it away. Let anyone with ears to hear listen!’

Discussion Questions

1. Why do you think Jesus uses the word “hate” & what do you think he means when he uses it?
2. Why do you think Jesus uses two illustrations – building a tower & going to war (v28–32) – to describe counting the cost of discipleship?
3. How do you think the crowd would have understood the word “disciple” that Jesus was using?
4. Do you think that the things Jesus refers in verses 26 & 33 are people & things in which people in Jesus’ time found identity? What do people find identity in today?
5. How does Jesus metaphor on salt relate to discipleship?
6. How can we prioritise Jesus above all else? What is the impact on other relationships if we can live this way?
7. How does this passage relate to our theme “brave unknown”?

Prayer

God of the ages, you call the Church to keep watch in the world and to discern the signs of the times: grant us the wisdom that your Spirit bestows, so that with courage we may proclaim your prophetic word, and complete the work you have set before us; through your Son, our Lord Jesus Christ, who lives and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. Amen.