



36. An Unfinished Tower

Jesus said, "For which one of you, when he wants to build a tower, does not first sit down and calculate the cost to see if he has enough to complete it? Otherwise, when he has laid a foundation and is not able to finish, all who observe it begin to ridicule him, saying, 'This man began to build and was not able to finish.'" That's Luke 14:28-30.

The context of those verses is Jesus explaining the cost of completing the process of becoming His disciple. Do you know the cost? Disciples are those who abide in His Word, John 8:31-32. They love one another with an unlimited co-liability, John 13:35. They help others come to faith in Jesus, John 15:8. And disciples put Jesus above all other relationships

and above themselves. They carry their own crosses ... they pay the price to follow Jesus ... and they hold all their possessions in open hands, Luke 14:26-33.

It's time for some honest self-examination. Are you truly a disciple of Jesus? Or are you just a believer? Are you really abiding in the Word? Do you love other believers in active love ... in word and deed? Are you an effective witness telling others about Jesus? Is Jesus first above all others? Who's in charge of your life. Is it you or Him? Are you carrying your own cross? Being a disciple will cost you in every area of your life. Are you paying the price? And are your possessions yours or His? Becoming His disciple is a building project. How is your personal building project? Don't be an unfinished tower.