

10. LORDSHIP (COUNTING THE COSTS)

Purpose

To understand what it means and takes to make Jesus Lord of your life.

- » In the gospels, following Jesus is called **discipleship**.
- » In the epistles, following Jesus is called **Lordship**.

When we become disciples of Jesus, he becomes Lord of every aspect of our lives.

JESUS IS LORD OF OUR CHARACTER & ATTITUDE

Colossians 3:1-4

- » **Set your minds on things above, not on earthly things** - We learn to process the world differently as Christ's followers. We have a different perspective.
- » **You died and your life is now hidden with Christ** - We must strive to think of heavenly and spiritual things. This is why we need daily prayer, Bible study, meditation, and fellowship.

Q: How do we set our minds on things above on a daily basis?

Colossians 3:5-10 (reflect back to sin study)

- » **Put to death whatever belongs to your earthly nature** - no more anger and rage. No more slander and gossip. No more lies. No more selfish ambition. No more lust and impurity.
- » **Put on the new self, which is being renewed** - being a follower of Jesus requires constant renewal.

Q: Are you committed to dying to your sinful nature daily?

Q: What do you believe your greatest challenges will be?

JESUS IS LORD OF OUR RELATIONSHIPS

Colossians 3:12-17

- » **Clothe yourselves with...** We are to live in imitation of Christ in our relationships.

Q: Which of these characteristics are the most difficult for you to "put on?"

- » **Forgive as the Lord forgave you** - God's forgiveness is our standard.

Q: How would you describe the forgiveness you will receive in baptism?

Q: Are you ready to forgive those that have sinned against you?

Q: Is there any particular person that you are struggling to forgive?

Colossians 3:18-25

- » **Wives, husbands, children, fathers** - God cares deeply about our family life.

Q: What changes do you need to make to fulfil the family role that God has given you?

- » **Whatever you do, work at it with all your heart, as working for the Lord** - When we are at work, we are serving the Lord.

Q: What do you need to change at work/school to be a model Christian employee/student?

2 Corinthians 6:14-18

- » **Do not be yoked together with unbelievers** - Do not get harnessed in intimate relationships with unbelievers.

Q: What kind of relationships do you think the Bible is describing here?

- » **Come out from them and be separate** - When our purpose and passion is to serve God, it changes our closest and most intimate relationships.

Q: What relationships do you have that could pull you away from God?

JESUS IS LORD OF OUR FINANCES

Matthew 6:19-24

- » **Do not store up for yourselves treasures on earth** - As a follower of Jesus, we are told to not invest financially in the things that the world invests in.

Q: How will this change your financial focus as a disciple?

- » **Store up for yourselves treasures in heaven** - Jesus shares this in contrast to storing up treasures on earth. We do this instead of working for financial gain.

Q: What do you think it means to store up treasure in heaven?

- » **You cannot serve both God and money** - Why? What happens?

1 Corinthians 15:58-16:2

- » **Always give yourselves fully to the work of the Lord** - We are to give everything to God's purposes; time, energy, and money.
- » **Set aside a sum of money in keeping with your income** - Paul communicates that our giving to the church should be regular and proportional to what we make.

Q: Are you committed to regularly financially giving to the work of the Lord?

CONCLUSION

Matthew 28:18-20

- » After you are baptised Jesus still expects you to be taught to obey His teachings.
- » How do you feel about being in an ongoing discipling relationship?

Acts 2:42-47

- » **They devoted themselves** - Immediately following the 3000 baptisms at Pentecost, we see these new converts devoted to each other, a spiritual focus, and the work of the Lord.

Q: How did they put into practice the three attitudes we studied today? What was the result?

Q: Are you willing to make Jesus Lord of every area of your life?

Q: Do you think it is worth the cost?