

## HOPE SABBATH SCHOOL

### Discipleship – Part 13

#### The Cost of Discipleship

Welcome to Hope Sabbath School--an in-depth interactive study of the Word of God. We are continuing a series of studies on discipleship. Our topic today: The Cost of Discipleship

Scripture Theme Song: Come to Me – Matthew 11:28-30

Prayer

- 1) Startling words from Jesus about discipleship
  - a) Luke 14:25-26
  - b) Luke 12:49-53
  - c) Matthew 10:37
  - d) These are startling words. What is Jesus trying to communicate to His disciples and also to us?
- 2) Denying self and taking up your cross
  - a) Luke 14:27-33
  - b) Matthew 16:24-25
  - c) What does it mean to “deny yourself”?
    - i) 1 Corinthians 9:24-27
    - ii) Hebrews 12:1-4
    - iii) Luke 6:35
    - iv) Matthew 5:44-45
    - v) Philippians 2:3-4
    - vi) John 1:29, John 3:30
- d) What is the significance of the phrase “take up his cross”?
- e) Why is it vitally important to remember that discipleship is all about following Jesus? “and follow Me.”
  - i) We are not trying to save ourselves by our self-denial and cross bearing. We are followers of Jesus. He is our Savior and Lord.
- 3) The prophecy of Jesus about persecution
  - a) Luke 21:10-17
  - b) John 16:1-4
  - c) Matthew 5:10-12
  - d) Luke 21:18-19
  - e) John 16:33
  - f) How do you feel about the prospect of persecution as a disciple of Jesus?
  - g) What forms of persecution are followers of Jesus already experiencing?
- 4) The testimony of a former persecutor
  - a) 2 Timothy 3:12
  - b) 2 Corinthians 11:24-27
  - c) Philippians 3:7-14
- 5) The promise of Jesus to His disciples
  - a) Luke 18:28-30
  - b) What is your response to this promise of Jesus?
- 6) Discussion question:
  - a) In his book *The Cost of Discipleship*, Dietrich Bonhoeffer wrote: “When Christ calls a man, he bids him come and die.” *The Cost of Discipleship*, p. 99  
How do you understand these words?