COUNTING THE COST

LUKE 9:51-62
As the time approached for him to be taken up to heaven, Jesus resolutely set out for Jerusalem. And he sent messengers on ahead, who went into a Samaritan village to get things ready for him; but the people there did not welcome him, because he was heading for Jerusalem. When the disciples James and John saw this, they asked, “Lord, do you want us to call fire down from heaven to destroy them?” But Jesus turned and rebuked them. Then he and his disciples went to another village.
As they were walking along the road, a man said to him, “I will follow you wherever you go.” Jesus replied, “Foxes have dens and birds have nests, but the Son of Man has no place to lay his head.” He said to another man, “Follow me.” But he replied, “Lord, first let me go and bury my father.”
Jesus said to him, “Let the dead bury their own dead, but you go and proclaim the kingdom of God.” Still another said, “I will follow you, Lord; but first let me go back and say goodbye to my family.” Jesus replied, “No one who puts a hand to the plow and looks back is fit for service in the kingdom of God.” Luke 9:51-62
4 Essential Commitments of a Follower of Jesus:

1. To follow Christ is to embrace a life of mercy (v. 51-56)
“But to you who are listening I say: Love your enemies, do good to those who hate you, bless those who curse you, pray for those who mistreat you. If someone slaps you on one cheek, turn to them the other also. If someone takes your coat, do not withhold your shirt from them. Give to everyone who asks you, and if anyone takes what belongs to you, do not demand it back. Do to others as you would have them do to you. Luke 6:27-31
4 Essential Commitments of a Follower of Jesus:

1. To follow Christ is to embrace a life of mercy (v. 51-56)
2. To follow Christ is to embrace a life of discomfort (v. 57-58)
4 Essential Commitments of a Follower of Jesus:

1. To follow Christ is to embrace a life of mercy (v. 51-56)
2. To follow Christ is to embrace a life of discomfort (v. 57-58)
3. To follow Christ is to embrace a life of urgency (v. 59-60)
For God so loved the world that he gave his one and only Son, that whoever believes in him shall not perish but have eternal life. For God did not send his Son into the world to condemn the world, but to save the world through him. Whoever believes in him is not condemned, but whoever does not believe stands condemned already because they have not believed in the name of God’s one and only Son. John 3:16-18
4 Essential Commitments of a Follower of Jesus:

1. To follow Christ is to embrace a life of mercy (v. 51-56)
2. To follow Christ is to embrace a life of discomfort (v. 57-58)
3. To follow Christ is to embrace a life of urgency (v. 59-60)
4. To follow Christ is to embrace a life of focus (v. 61-62)
If we confess our sins, he is faithful and just and will forgive us our sins and purify us from all unrighteousness. 1 John 1:9
Not that I have already obtained all this, or have already arrived at my goal, but I press on to take hold of that for which Christ Jesus took hold of me. Brothers and sisters, I do not consider myself yet to have taken hold of it. But one thing I do: Forgetting what is behind and straining toward what is ahead, I press on toward the goal to win the prize for which God has called me heavenward in Christ Jesus.

Philippians 3:12-14
Mission Statement: “We believe that God has placed us in the Chisago Lakes area to be a loving, Biblical and relevant witness to the grace and truth of our Lord Jesus Christ. Our mission is to glorify God by making healthy multiplying disciples who will work together to reach the world for Jesus Christ.”
Then Jesus came to them and said, “All authority in heaven and on earth has been given to me. Therefore go and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, and teaching them to obey everything I have commanded you. And surely I am with you always, to the very end of the age.” Matthew 28:18-20