

LESSON 6
FULL PRICE
MATTHEW 8:1—10:42



1 What items do people commonly buy with coupons or try to get at a discount?

2 When are people willing to pay full price for something?



Read Matthew 8:1—10:42, the chart “Counting the Cost of Following Christ,” and the following notes:

- ☐ 8:19, 20 ☐ 8:21, 22 ☐ 10:17, 18 ☐ 10:19, 20 ☐ 10:22 ☐ 10:23
☐ 10:25 ☐ 10:29–31 ☐ 10:34 ☐ 10:34–39 ☐ 10:37 ☐ 10:38 ☐ 10:39

3 What costs might a person have to pay to follow Jesus (8:18–22; 10:17–42)?

4 Why might these costs involve opposition or conflict (10:17–39)?

5 How was the crowd's understanding of Christ still quite naive (8:18–22)?



Many people wanted to follow Jesus, but many of them didn't want to pay the price. That's why Jesus challenged those who wanted to follow him to count the cost, because following him would involve living with discomfort, self-sacrifice, and even rejection. Jesus meets each of us with the call "Follow me." His request is simple and direct. But following Jesus is not like joining a wholesale club. He requires more commitment from us than that. He wants us to have him at the very center of our life, submitting all our other values, relationships, and belongings to his authority. We must count these costs before saying we want to follow him.

6 What did it cost the disciples to follow Christ?

7 What made it worth the price?

8 What might it cost a person to follow Jesus today?



9 What costs keep people from following Christ?

10 What costs have you had to pay to follow Christ?

11 What costs have you been unwilling to pay in following Christ?

12 How might your plans for the future change if you became willing to pay any price to follow Christ?

13 The next time you have to pay a price for doing what God desires of you, what do you want to remember?



A Why did Jesus tell the paralyzed man that he was forgiven before he healed the man's physical condition (9:2–8)? What does Jesus want to heal most in every person? How can Christians reflect that concern in the way they carry out God's work in the world?

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B Where did Jesus go that caused the religious leaders to question his actions (9:10, 11)? Why did Jesus go there (9:12, 13)? Where and to whom can you go in following Jesus' example?

C Why didn't Jesus' disciples fast (9:14–17)? What are some good reasons for fasting? How could you use fasting as a spiritual discipline?

D What impossible situation did Jesus use his power to change (9:18–26)? Why did he step in to do something? With what impossible situation can you ask Jesus to help you?

E What is one need for which God specifically asks us to pray (9:36–38)? How can you fulfill this request in your own times of prayer?

F What special traveling instructions did Jesus give his disciples when he sent them out to perform miracles in his name (10:1–15)? What is timeless about these instructions? What areas of your life do his instructions affect?

G What did Jesus mean when he said, "If you cling to your life, you will lose it; but if you give it up for me, you will find it" (10:39)? When we decide to follow Christ, what do we lose? What do we find? How can you remember that the benefits of your faith outweigh the sacrifices Christ asks you to make?