

# DISCIPLE



**THREE: FAITH**  
[DROPPING YOUR NETS]

# THREE: FAITH

[Dropping Your Nets]

HOST  
SHEET

*From the outset, conversion is expressed in faith which is total and radical and which neither limits nor hinders God's gift. At the same time, it gives rise to a dynamic and lifelong process which demands a continual turning away from 'life according to the flesh' to 'life according to the Spirit' (cf. Rom 8:3-13). Conversion means accepting, by a personal decision, the saving sovereignty of Christ and becoming his disciple." -Pope John Paul II, Mission of the Redeemer (1990) # 46.*

In this session we cover the biblical notion of faith, which is less "intellectual assent" and more "trustful surrender" to Christ. This session talk is in three parts: Personal Priorities, The Cost of Discipleship, and taking on Kingdom Priorities. The goal of this session is to start adopting the Kingdom Priorities through faith in Christ.

We use a figure from history, Dietrich Bonhoeffer, to illustrate the deeply personal and absolute demands of Christian discipleship from his comparison between "Cheap Grace" and "Costly Grace." These are taken from his book, *The Cost of Discipleship*, which he lived out, dying in a Nazi Concentration Camp for his Christian opposition to the Aryan regime.

## THINGS TO REMEMBER

- Bring your Bible to this session. You will need to read Luke 14:25-33

## Talking Points: The Obedience of Faith

Jesus Christ wants doers of his word and not just hearers. This is the difference between a lifelong disciple versus someone who is a member of an organization. This is a living relationship between Jesus and me, between his commands and my life, and between my life and the Church community.

The Cost of Discipleship in Luke 14 lays out the demands of following Christ. He is trying to get us to realize that to be his followers we must adopt his values, virtues and priorities.

Discipleship starts with what God did for us (Gospel), and our response to his work by our repentance (Repent). The disciple then follows Christ by trusting in him and surrendering our lives to him.

"Cheap grace means grace as a doctrine, a principle, a system. It means forgiveness of sins proclaimed as a general truth, the love of God taught as the Christian 'conception' of God. An intellectual assent to that idea is held to be of itself sufficient to secure remission of sins.... In such a Church the world finds a cheap covering for its sins; no contrition is required, still less any real desire to be delivered from sin. Cheap grace therefore amounts to a denial of the living Word of God, in fact, a denial of the Incarnation of the Word of God." -Dietrich Bonhoeffer

COMMUNITY GROUPS

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[Dropping Your Nets]

session  
sheet

## Introduction– 15 minutes

- Welcome guests as they enter your home, greeting them with a smile
- Serve drinks (and/or food) at this time

## Talk – 20 minutes

Opening Prayer from someone in the group  
Turn on the Video: *Faith* [Dropping Your Nets]

## Discussion – 45 minutes

1. What is your number one priority in life? What makes it difficult to keep this a priority?
2. How does Michael's definition of faith as 'trustful surrender to Christ' alter your perception of what it means to be a Christian?
3. What do you think about Jesus' words in "The Cost of Disciple" reading from Luke 14?
4. What are some things in your life competing with Christ for centrality?
5. Which "Kingdom Priorities" are more difficult for you, the Upward or the Outward?

## Prayer- 10 minutes

1. Read Aloud: Luke 14:25-33, the Cost of Discipleship, and pray for the grace to make Christ first in our lives.
2. Prayer Intentions: Have each person offer up one intention that they need for the upcoming week
3. Close with an Our Father.