

THE THINGS DISCIPLES DO

Lesson 11

Wednesday,
March 18

What sort of things do disciples do? **Disciples stay _____ for the return of their master.** Listen carefully to the words of Jesus in [Luke 12:35-40](#).

“Stay dressed for action and keep your lamps burning, and be like men who are _____ for their master to come home from the wedding feast, so that they may open the door to him at once when he comes and knocks. Blessed are those servants whom the master finds awake when he comes. Truly, I say to you, _____ will dress himself for service and have them recline at table, and he will come and serve them. If he comes in the second watch, or in the third, and finds them awake, blessed are those servants! But know this, that if the master of the house had known at what hour the thief was coming, he would not have left his house to be broken into. You also must be ready, for the Son of Man is _____ at an hour you do not expect.”

Disciples _____ all that they have. As great crowds followed him, Jesus said...

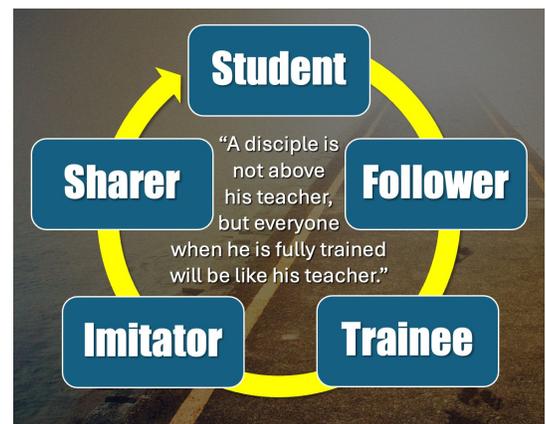
“If anyone comes to me and does not hate his own father and mother and wife and children and brothers and sisters, yes, and even his own life, he _____ be my disciple.” ([Luke 14:25-27](#))

After illustrating the need to “count the cost” by describing someone who wants to build a tower or a king going out to war, Jesus summarized his powerful point this way: “So therefore, any one of you who does not renounce all that he has cannot be my disciple.” ([14:33](#))

In [Luke 15](#), Jesus tells three “lost” parables—a lost sheep, a lost coin, and a lost son. Why?

Now the tax collectors and _____ were all drawing near to hear him. And the Pharisees and the scribes _____, saying, “This man receives sinners and eats with them.” So he told them this parable... ([15:1-3](#))

In each parable, there is great rejoicing. In fact, “I tell you, there is joy before the _____ of God over one sinner who repents” ([15:10](#)). Like the angels, **disciples _____ when that which was lost is found.** Jesus has given us plenty to talk about, so let’s dig in...



For Class & Family Discussion:

- ▶ **Disciples stay ready for the return of their master.** Let's turn our Bibles back to [Luke 12](#). When Jesus told his disciples, "Stay dressed for action and keep your lamps burning" ([12:35](#)), what did he mean?
- ▶ Jesus illustrated his point with two parables: men who are waiting for their master to come home from a wedding feast ([12:36-40](#)) and a faithful, wise manager ([12:42-48](#)). In your own words, what does Jesus want his disciples to understand?
- ▶ It's been a very long time since Jesus walked the earth and told these parables. Do disciples *still* need to stay ready for the return of their master? If so, why? What does that look like in the 21st century? How can we practice that?
- ▶ **Disciples renounce all that they have.** As great crowds were following Jesus wherever he went, why do you think he would turn and say what he said in [Luke 14:26-27](#)?
- ▶ Again, Jesus illustrates his point with two parables: a man desiring to build a tower ([14:28-30](#)) and a king going out to encounter another king in war ([14:31-32](#)). In your own words, what does Jesus want his disciples to understand?
- ▶ What does it mean to "renounce" what you have? Jesus used that word in [Luke 14:33](#) and went so far as to say, "Any one of you who does not renounce all that he has cannot be my disciple." So what does "renouncing" have to do with discipleship?
- ▶ **Disciples celebrate when that which was lost is found.** How do Jesus' three "lost" parables in [Luke 15](#) relate to the context Luke gives us in [15:1-2](#)?
- ▶ What do you think? How can we avoid falling into the trap that the older brother in [Luke 15:25-32](#) fell into?