

Refrigerator Notes 04 September 2016
"The Cost to Follow Jesus"
Luke 14: 25-33

1. The word of God is not a contradictory Word - but did Jesus contradict Himself in verse 26?
2. Jesus provides two conditions that one must meet, if you are to be His disciple,
3. Condition one (1) one must hate their relatives and others that they love and,
4. Condition two (2) - Anyone who does not carry their cross, cannot be His disciple
5. Jesus used the word "hate" in verse 26 – "even his own life"
6. Verse 26 seems to be very troubling in the least, however, the context of the word hate is not one that we are accustomed to in our English language
7. To clearly understand Jesus' use of the term Hate, an etymology word search must be conducted (Etymology is the study of the origin of words and the way in which their meanings have changed throughout history)
8. A search of the word denotes less than or more than
9. (Gen. 29:31) says that "The Lord saw that Leah was hated," (KJV) – not with contempt or with hostility, but "As Jacob loved Rachel MORE than Leah"
10. So here in Lk. 14:26, Jesus isn't teaching contempt, animosity, hostility or any offensive attitude or deed towards our kindred
11. By the "cross", which was a Roman punishment, whereby malefactors were put to death, are meant all sorts of afflictions, reproaches, persecutions, and death itself, and particularly the ill will, hatred, and persecution, of near relations and friends, which must be expected by such, who bear a faithful testimony for Christ
12. First, we must see this verse in the context of the chapter – Jesus is not teaching His disciples that they must hate their love ones, but
13. One must love his family members **less** than Christ
14. We must esteem Jesus **more highly** than the people we love here on earth and we must love Jesus **more than** our own lives. In fact, we must love Him so much that our earthly loves pale in comparison, even to the point of seeming like hate
15. The two metaphors that Jesus uses to teach His disciples are meant to teach them the cost of following Him, before they elect to be His disciples – however, the excuses that people use for not following Christ are in comprehensive to our Lord
16. Too many hypocrites in the Church – as if Hell will not be full of them!
17. I am afraid I cannot live a Christian life without fault – same as saying "I'm not going into the swimming pool until I learn how to swim.
18. You can never live for Jesus, but you must allow Him to live through you, Gal. 2:20.
19. "I just don't feel it" – show me where you are supposed to feel something to be a disciple of Jesus. Jesus says, come as you are!
20. "There is too much to give up or I'm not ready to give up the good times – it's like telling the doctor not to cut the cancer out of you because you have become attached to it (that's crazy).
21. I can't be forgiven – I'm too great of a sinner – I say take a page out of the bible of those whom Jesus loved and blessed who have as much as you or more!
22. Christian folks are not those I am accustomed to hanging with – Jesus allows Christians to hang with bad company, just don't become like them!

23. My favorite — I'll give my life later to Christ, but not today" — you may be too busy to come to Christ, but you are not too busy to live in sin, and you certainly not too busy to die and go to hell (Oh, it's a real place)
24. Our Lord is not pitting us against one another nor should we feel like we are selling out or compromising our family principles of love for one another
25. Plain and simple — Jesus comes first - before father, mother, husband or wife or children — Put Jesus First!