



Count The Cost

Chris Lindberg // John 8:54-59, 14:1-4, Luke 14:26-27

“I Am” statements are powerful

- Divisive
- Unifying
- Statements of identity

His Cost

Jesus’ declarations led to opposition which ultimately led to His death. Here we see such a statement that would have left the Pharisee’s blood boiling.

John 8:54-59 NIV

⁵⁴ Jesus replied, “If I glorify myself, my glory means nothing. My Father, whom you claim as your God, is the one who glorifies me. ⁵⁵ Though you do not know him, I know him. If I said I did not, I would be a liar like you, but I do know him and obey his word. ⁵⁶ Your father Abraham rejoiced at the thought of seeing my day; he saw it and was glad.”

⁵⁷ “You are not yet fifty years old,” they said to him, “and you have seen Abraham!”

*⁵⁸ “Very truly I tell you,” Jesus answered, “**before Abraham was born, I am!**” ⁵⁹ At this, they picked up stones to stone him, but Jesus hid himself, slipping away from the temple grounds.*

Our Cost

“Preach the Gospel to yourself” – Martin Luther

Jesus calls us to love everything, even ourselves, less than God – surrender to His teaching and guidance through the Holy Spirit.

Philippians 3:8 NIV

⁸ Indeed, I count everything as loss because of the surpassing worth of knowing Christ Jesus my Lord.

Luke 14:26 NIV

²⁶ “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 cannot be my disciple.

- “Hate” - *Miseo* – to love less, to esteem less

Our Hope

Through our surrender we receive blessing in our lives, but our motivation in life is found in our hope of future glory in eternal existence with God our Father.

Matthew 6:19-21 NIV

¹⁹ “Do not store up for yourselves treasures on earth, where moths and vermin destroy, and where thieves break in and steal. ²⁰ But store up for yourselves treasures in heaven, where moths and vermin do not destroy, and where thieves do not break in and steal. ²¹ For where your treasure is, there your heart will be also.

John 14:1-4 NIV

¹ “Do not let your hearts be troubled. You believe in God; believe also in me. ² My Father’s house has many rooms; if that were not so, would I have told you that I am going there to prepare a place for you? ³ And if I go and prepare a place for you, I will come back and take you to be with me that you also may be where I am. ⁴ You know the way to the place where I am going.”

Big Idea: The treasure of the Gospel is the merciful, loving-kindness, of God’s grace towards sinners. The challenge of the Gospel is to therefore surrender everything in our life to His Kingdom with the hope of future glory in eternity.

Baptism Celebration – June 20th at both gatherings