

Acts 19:21-41
September 9, 2018
Sermon Notes

Question for the week:

Why aren't you as passionate about your relationship with Christ as you are about the Colts?

Fanatical: to be filled with excessive and single-minded zeal

Luke 14:26-27

26 "If you want to follow me but you don't hate your father and mother, and wife and children, and brothers and sisters—even your own life—you can't be my disciple. 27 If you don't carry your cross and follow me, you can't be my disciple.

What is keeping you from fanatical discipleship to Jesus:

1. Your possessions?

Luke 18:22 ESV

22 When Jesus heard this, he said to him, "One thing you still lack. Sell all that you have and distribute to the poor, and you will have treasure in heaven; and come, follow me."

Luke 14:33 ESV

33 So therefore, any one of you who does not renounce all that he has cannot be my disciple.

Our lifestyles are deeply invested in the ostentatious evidences of the American dream of personal prosperity, a prosperity so pervasive that to not have a flat screen television is considered real poverty.
Michael Spencer

Matthew 6:21 ESV

21 For where your treasure is, there your heart will be also.

Earthly goods are given to be used, not to be collected. The disciple must receive his portion from God every day. If he stores it up as a permanent possession, he spoils not only the gift, but himself as well, for he sets his heart on accumulated wealth, and makes it a barrier between himself and God. Where our treasure is, there is our trust, our security, our consolation and our God. Hoarding is idolatry.

Dietrich Bonhoeffer, *The Cost of Discipleship*

Acts 2:45-46 ESV

45 And they were selling their possessions and belongings and distributing the proceeds to all, as any had need. 46 And day by day, attending the temple together and breaking bread in their homes, they received their food with glad and generous hearts,

Acts 4:34 ESV

34 There was not a needy person among them, for as many as were owners of lands or houses sold them and brought the proceeds of what was sold

What is keeping you from fanatical discipleship to Jesus:

2. People

Social Proof Theory: when people are unsure of the action they should take they seek out the direction the majority is following

Don't let people keep you from following Jesus with your whole heart:

- a. Know why you believe what you believe
- b. Spend time with others who want to follow Jesus
- c. Pursue God, not the approval of others

Colossians 2:8 NLT

8 Don't let anyone capture you with empty philosophies and high-sounding nonsense that come from human thinking and from the spiritual powers of this world, rather than from Christ.

Hebrews 10:24-25 ESV

24 And let us consider how to stir up one another to love and good works, 25 not neglecting to meet together, as is the habit of some, but encouraging one another, and all the more as you see the Day drawing near.

Galatians 1:10 NLT

10 Obviously, I'm not trying to win the approval of people, but of God. If pleasing people were my goal, I would not be Christ's servant.

What is keeping you from fanatical discipleship to Jesus:

3. Your freedom?

When Christ calls a man, he bids him come and die.

Dietrich Bonhoeffer, *The Cost of Discipleship*

Philippians 3:8 ESV

8 Indeed, I count everything as loss because of the surpassing worth of knowing Christ Jesus my Lord. For his sake I have suffered the loss of all things and count them as rubbish, in order that I may gain Christ

When Christ calls a man, he bids him come and die.

Dietrich Bonhoeffer, *The Cost of Discipleship*