

CANDIDATES FOR DISCIPLESHIP

Luke 9:57-62

I. THE FIRST CANDIDATE

A. Luke 9:57-58

1. He volunteered to follow, but the Lord discouraged him.

2. Mark 4:16-17

He does not desire impetuous disciples, for they will fall away the quickest.

B. Luke 14:26-33

One must first evaluate the cost of commitment to God.

1. Matthew 10:21-22; John 16:1-4; 2nd Timothy 3:12

Persecution should be expected.

2. Mark 10:17-22; Hebrews 11:24-26

Christ must be valued more highly than riches.

3. Ecclesiastes 5:5; 2nd Peter 2:20-22; Hebrews 6:4-6

It is preferable to never obey, than to do so without genuine commitment, for the punishment for apostasy is severe.

II. THE SECOND CANDIDATE

A. Luke 9:59-60

1. He was invited by the Lord.

a. Matthew 11:28-30

b. Revelation 22:17

2. However, he delayed to accept the invitation, using an excuse.

a. Revelation 3:20

He knocks.

b. Luke 14:16-24

We must answer!

B. Matthew 6:33

1. His priorities were not the Lord's.

2. **Matthew 10:37; 12:47-50**

He elevated his family in the flesh to that position.

C. Acts 24:24-25

Like Felix, he thought it safe to delay.

1. **James 4:13-14**

However, life is unpredictable.

2. **2nd Corinthians 6:2**

Salvation should be taken advantage of promptly!

III. THE THIRD CANDIDATE

A. Luke 9:61-62

He volunteered, but hesitated.

B. Luke 17:32; Genesis 19:26

Looking back is dangerous, and indicates a lack of commitment.

C. Philippians 3:13-14; 2nd Timothy 4:7

Christians are a forward looking people.

CONCLUSION

Are you a qualified candidate for discipleship?