



Holy Trinity
Combe Down



St Andrew's
Community Church

Jesus Said What?! – About Following Him

Lk 9:57–62, 14:26–33 – Sermon from 15 Sept 2024 – Small Group Notes

People are all-in for all sorts of things. What are some things you can think of that people are all-in for? What causes a person to be able to commit to something? Why might some people be unable to commit to anything? How might these extremes work out when we think about being all-in for God?

Where do you feel the gap between what we believe as Christians and how we live? How do we deal with the gap we find between how we ought to be, and how we really are?

You can choose to live for God in a moment but living it out takes a lifetime. Do you think it is true that as a person grows in holiness, they will actually feel less holy? Why or why not?

I've heard it said that every conversation is a negotiation. What do you think about this way of seeing life? Why do people think they can negotiate with God?

Read Luke 9:57–62

How do these seem like reasonable acts of negotiation? Why does Jesus counter them in the way that he does?

How do we combat treating our faith like we are consumers and God is a product? How can we resist this in our own hearts?

In the early church a person would “repent and be baptised”. What are the pros or cons when comparing what commonly happens today with the early church? What is the significance of the symbolism of baptism in this?

In the ancient world discipleship was more all-encompassing than would happen today. How, do you think, we hold on to the meaning behind being disciples of Jesus today?

Read Luke 9:57–58

Why might Jesus have said this? What might he be addressing in this man's heart?

Read Luke 9:51 and Luke 14:27

Why is Jesus' attitude toward fulfilling God's will significant?

Read Luke 9:59–60

What is odd about this request, and why do you think Jesus responds this way?

Read Luke 14:26

What does it mean for us to hate people that we are otherwise told to love? Why would Jesus say this?

Read Luke 9:61–62

Why is the metaphor of ploughing a field significant? What might we miss with this not being our normal experience?

What does it mean to not be double-minded? How do we do this in a world that is often drawing us away from God?

When is it wise to 'burn the ships'? What might this look like?

The cost of following Jesus is high, but worth it. Why is it important to have a point of decision where we choose to follow God? Does anyone want to share when you first did this, and what brought you to this point of decision? Why is it good to regularly re-commit to following God?