



The Cost of Greatness

The Cost of Discipleship – Part 1
Luke 9:37-48

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Q: What is the cost of true greatness? Of Spiritual greatness?

The Cost of Spiritual Greatness:

I. Spiritual Greatness Costs your Unbelief (Vs. 37-43)

Luke 9:37-43a *On the next day, when they came down from the mountain, a large crowd met Him. 38 And a man from the crowd shouted, saying, "Teacher, I beg You to look at my son, for he is my only boy, 39 and a spirit seizes him, and he suddenly screams, and it throws him into a convulsion with foaming at the mouth; and only with difficulty does it leave him, mauling him as it leaves. 40 I begged Your disciples to cast it out, and they could not." 41 And Jesus answered and said, "You unbelieving and perverted generation, how long shall I be with you and put up with you? Bring your son here." 42 While he was still approaching, the demon slammed him to the ground and threw him into a convulsion. But Jesus rebuked the unclean spirit, and healed the boy and gave him back to his father. 43 And they were all amazed at the greatness of God.*

Luke 9:1&2 *And He called the twelve together, and gave them power and authority over all the demons and to heal diseases. 2 And He sent them out to proclaim the kingdom of God and to perform healing.*

II. Spiritual Greatness Costs your Life (Vs. 43-45)

Luke 9:43-45 *And they were all amazed at the greatness of God. But while everyone was marveling at all that He was doing, He said to His disciples,*

44 "Let these words sink into your ears; for the Son of Man is going to be delivered into the hands of men." 45 But they did not understand this statement, and it was concealed from them so that they would not perceive it; and they were afraid to ask Him about this statement.

III. Spiritual Greatness Costs you Worldly Greatness

Luke 9:46-48 *An argument started among them as to which of them might be the greatest. 47 But Jesus, knowing what they were thinking in their heart, took a child and stood him by His side, 48 and said to them, "Whoever receives this child in My name receives Me, and whoever receives Me receives Him who sent Me; for the one who is least among all of you, this is the one who is great."*

Point: To be great you must become less.

Doggy Bag: Something to take home and chew on!

1. Do you believe that Jesus can do something great through you? Do you believe that Jesus has empowered you to make a Kingdom difference in the world?
2. Do you have faith that what Jesus has done for you is done? Do you believe that Jesus can forgive your sins and reconcile you to God? Do you believe that Jesus can make you a new creation, your old life is gone, and a new life has come? Do you believe that Jesus can sanctify you and make you a holy person? Do you believe that Jesus can set you free from your sin and addictions and demons? Do you believe that Jesus can make you a loving person? Do you believe that Jesus can give you gifts to do His work in the world? How does that manifest itself in your life?
3. How dead is your old life? What does it look like for you to carry your cross?
4. Are you ready to give up your greatness? Are you ready to let go of your pride? Your position? Your status? Your popularity? Your power? What does that look like in your life?

