



Do people really count the cost when they decide to follow Jesus? Being a Christian will cost you something and it will give you responsibilities.



## 2 Thessalonians 2:10-11

“and with all the deception of wickedness for those who perish, because they did not receive the love of the truth so as to be saved. For this reason, God will send upon them a deluding influence so that they will believe what is false.”

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If people do not **love** truth enough to genuinely seek for it, then God will allow them to keep believing what is false.

The road is narrow that leads to life, and truth and righteousness are what that road is paved with.



## Deuteronomy 4:29

“... from there you will seek the LORD your God, and you will find Him **if** you search for Him with all your heart and all your soul.”

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God promises to be found if we truly seek Him!



## Daniel 9:3

“... I gave my attention to the Lord God to seek *Him* by prayer and supplications, with fasting, sackcloth and ashes.”

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Do we have the attitude as Daniel? To what extent are we willing to seek God? Just going to church or praying before meals, is not seeking God as He desires to be sought.

Hosea 4:6 tells us that the Israelites we destroyed for lack of knowledge. Knowing about God and really knowing God is important. Satan knows who God is, but his end is the Lake of Fire. We must not only know, but we must obey! **We must seek to know so that we can obey!**



## **Psalms 63:1**

“O God, You are my God; I shall seek You earnestly; My soul thirsts for You, my flesh yearns for You, in a dry and weary land where there is no water.”

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We must hunger and thirst for God and His righteousness. Do we feel this way when we listen to a sermon, read the Bible, or pray?



## 2 Chronicles 15:12

“They entered into the covenant to seek the LORD God of their fathers with all their heart and soul”

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Are you willing to make a covenant to always seek God?



## 2 Chronicles 31:21

“Every work which he began in the service of the house of God in law and in commandment, seeking his God, he did with all his heart and **prospered.**”

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There are some good results when we seek God with all our hearts!



# Acts 1: 1-11

“you will receive power when the Holy Spirit has come upon you; and you shall be My witnesses both in Jerusalem, and in all Judea and Samaria, and even to the remotest part of the earth.” 1:8

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The disciples had asked Jesus if now was the time that he would establish the kingdom, God's righteous government, on the earth. Jesus basically told them not to worry about the “when”, but that they had a job to do, and it came with a promise!

Read Acts 1:1-11

It says that the purpose of the spirit being given was so that they would be empowered to be his witnesses. The purpose was evangelism!





# Matthew 24:14

“This gospel of the kingdom shall be preached in the whole world as a testimony to all the nations, and then the end will come.”

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God had prepared the way at just the right time for His messiah. He not only prepared people and governments, but He prepared an actual way for this Good News to travel to the nations. Up until this time, most ancient roads were dirt paths, but Roman engineers had discovered how to make roads last a long time and they interconnected the entire Empire. At the time of Jesus, the Roman roads were great highways that went out in many directions from Rome that linked many roads and connected vast territories and kingdoms. They literally paved the way for the Good News to travel around the known world.

Read all of Mt. 24. We, have a great responsibility and privilege! We get to help bring about the return of Jesus!



# Acts 2:14-47

For the promise is for you and your children and for all who are far off, as many as the Lord our God will call to Himself.” And with many other words he solemnly testified and kept on exhorting them, saying, “Be saved from this perverse generation!” 2:39-40

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Read Acts 2:14-47

Important doctrines (teachings) were addressed, and the people were given hope.

**Jesus’ disciples must be able to teach what Jesus and his apostles taught.** When we become passionate about this kingdom hope, there is no greater joy than sharing it with another person!

What did the early church do to prepare for the kingdom work they were given? “They were continually devoting themselves to the apostles’ teaching and to fellowship, to the breaking of bread and to prayer.” (Acts 2:42)



# Matthew 25:14-30

Which servant will you be?

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Read Matthew 25:14-30.

Which servant will you be? In America we have been given many “talents” or things we can invest - time, money, opportunities and freedom. It would be quite arrogant to think that we deserve more than our brethren in third world countries or those who live their faith out in Muslim countries. Those in other countries are not exempt. They too have resources that they can sacrifice to the Lord. They can sacrifice their time and even their safety in order to serve God. We are a team and we must love truth and OBEY no matter what country we live in. We all must put our lives on the altar. It just looks a little different in different countries.

As the verse says, **much is expected when much is given.** How will you use what has been given to you?