



# Kingdom Manifestations **LIVING** Unveiling the Power Within

## *Unit 1: Understanding My Identity as a Kingdom Citizen*

### *Lesson 10: The Cost and Privilege of Kingdom Citizenship*

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**Lesson Objective:** Understand the sacrifices and blessings of being a part of God's Kingdom

**Key Scriptures:** Luke 9:23-25; Matthew 13:44-46

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#### **I. Introduction**

When we get ready to make a significant purchase or investment, we often weigh the pros and cons. We may read the reviews left by those who have made the purchase before us or we may seek trusted individuals for advice and guidance. As Kingdom citizens we are called to calculate the cost of following Jesus (see Luke 14:28-33). However, no matter how you count up the costs, no matter what form of calculation you decide to use the bottom line is that following Jesus will always be worth the investment.

In this lesson we will examine what it will cost us to be part of God's Kingdom as well as the many privileges we gain with our citizenship.

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#### **II. Main Teaching**

##### **The Cost:**

**Luke 9:23-25 (AMP):** <sup>23</sup>And He was saying to them all, "If anyone wishes to follow Me [as My disciple], he must deny himself [set aside selfish interests], and take up his cross daily [expressing a willingness to endure whatever may come] and follow Me [believing in Me, conforming to My example in living and, if need be, suffering or perhaps dying because of faith in Me]. <sup>24</sup>For whoever wishes to save his life [in this world] will [eventually] lose it [through death], but whoever loses his life [in this world] for my sake, he is the one who will save it [from the consequences of sin and separation from God]. <sup>25</sup>For what does it profit a man if he gains the whole world [wealth, fame, success], and loses or forfeits himself?

**Luke 14:33 (AMP):** <sup>33</sup>So then, none of you can be My disciple who does not [carefully consider the cost and then for My sake] give up all his own possessions.

- To \_\_\_\_\_ oneself means to disown, abstain, or refuse something. It means to disown and renounce self or to disregard all personal interests and enjoyments. The cost of Kingdom citizenship means that we will have to set aside our fleshly, shellfish \_\_\_\_\_.
- Following Jesus requires our whole \_\_\_\_\_ and every area of our lives.
- When Jesus says “come after me” or “follow me” He is describing a passionate pursuit of someone we \_\_\_\_\_. It’s a pursuit that should consume our thoughts, resources, and energy.
- We can’t “come after” Jesus without \_\_\_\_\_ ourselves. When we accept the invitation to deny ourselves and follow Jesus we become His \_\_\_\_\_. We can’t call Jesus Lord without declaring ourselves His slave

### Being a slave to Christ

- Being a slave of Christ means living in complete \_\_\_\_\_ and devotion to Jesus, where His will and commands take precedence over your own \_\_\_\_\_.
- The term "slave" (Greek: *doulos*) in the Bible signifies total \_\_\_\_\_ — not partial loyalty or occasional obedience, but full belonging to Christ.
- When Paul and other New Testament writers (like James, Peter, and John) call themselves “slaves of Christ,” they are emphasizing a few key ideas:
  - Ownership: Christ has \_\_\_\_\_ believers with His blood (1 Corinthians 6:19–20). You are no longer your own.
  - Obedience: A slave's duty is to \_\_\_\_\_ the master. Following Christ means striving to obey Him in everything, not picking and choosing.
  - Allegiance: It’s about unwavering loyalty to Jesus, even when it’s hard or countercultural.
- Freedom through Bondage: Paradoxically, being Christ’s slave leads to true \_\_\_\_\_ — freedom from sin, death, and the world’s empty promises (Romans 6:18, 22).
- In modern times, the word "slave" carries painful and heavy connotations (especially because of historic human slavery). But biblically, the emphasis is not on oppression, but on a loving, gracious Master who \_\_\_\_\_ Himself for those He calls His own. It’s a willing, joyful surrender to the One who has given eternal life.
- It is only when we \_\_\_\_\_ ourselves that we truly discover the joy of following Christ
- Taking our \_\_\_\_\_ and following Jesus can and will bring pain and suffering. We can’t carry a cross without suffering. (Discuss or give some examples of pain and suffering)

- Jesus invites us to die to ourselves. We \_\_\_\_\_ to our own desires, our pursuits, and our plans.

**Discussion Question:** Are we really carrying a cross if there is no suffering and sacrifice?

**Reflection Question:** What are some ways we can die to ourselves on a daily basis?

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### **The Privilege:**

**Matthew 13:44-46 (KJV):** <sup>44</sup>Again, the kingdom of heaven is like unto treasure hid in a field; the which when a man hath found, he hideth, and for joy thereof goeth and selleth all that he hath, and buyeth that field. <sup>45</sup>Again, the kingdom of heaven is like unto a merchant man, seeking goodly pearls: <sup>46</sup>Who, when he had found one pearl of great price, went and sold all that he had, and bought it.

- The hidden treasure is a symbol of us, children of God. Jesus is the man who sold all that he owned, leaving his exalted place of glory to come and pay for the sin of the whole world with his own \_\_\_\_\_ just so he could have us, his treasure.
- Heaven's kingdom realm is experienced when we realize what a great \_\_\_\_\_ Jesus places on our souls, for He gave His sacred blood for us.
- The Kingdom is so valuable that it's worth giving up \_\_\_\_\_ we own to gain it.

**Philippians 3:7-8 (AMP):** <sup>7</sup>But whatever former things were gains to me [as I thought then], these things [once regarded as advancements in merit] I have come to consider as loss [absolutely worthless] for the sake of Christ [and the purpose which He has given my life]. <sup>8</sup>But more than that, I count everything as loss compared to the priceless privilege and supreme advantage of knowing Christ Jesus my Lord [and of growing more deeply and thoroughly acquainted with Him—a joy unequaled]. For His sake I have lost everything, and I consider it all garbage, so that I may gain Christ,

- The privilege of Kingdom citizenship is that we gain victory, grace, freedom, healing, hope, and \_\_\_\_\_.
- As Kingdom citizens we are under God's \_\_\_\_\_. This means no one or nothing can snatch us out of His hand. We are rescued from the dominion of darkness.
- As Kingdom citizens we have access to Kingdom provisions and \_\_\_\_\_.

- As Kingdom citizens, our welfare is the personal \_\_\_\_\_ of our Lord and savior.
- As Kingdom citizens we live under God's government and are to \_\_\_\_\_ His character while reproducing His will on earth.
- As Kingdom citizens we have a \_\_\_\_\_ salvation and our position in the Kingdom is guaranteed. (Discuss.this.in.respect.to»once.saved.always.save«)
- As Kingdom citizens our King can never be voted out of power and the authority of our King is unconditional.
- As Kingdom citizens God has endowed us with \_\_\_\_\_ here on earth.

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### **Practical Reflection:**

Reflect on the ways where we may find ourselves more concerned with what the world's rules and regulations dictate over what God has to say.

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### **Memory Verse**

" And he said to them all, If any man will come (Luke 9:23, KJV)