

Opening Question

What Does It Mean to Be a Christian?

Key Takeaways

- 1.) The word "Christian" means "one who belongs to the anointed one" (Christ).
- 2.) Jesus called us to be disciples, not just casual believers.
- 3.) Being a disciple requires counting the cost and full commitment.
- 4.) True discipleship involves discipline in three key areas: Word, Worship, and Witness.

Discussion Questions

- 1.) What does being a "Christian" mean to you personally? How has your understanding of this term changed after hearing this sermon?
- 2.) Pastor Zach mentioned different "types" of Christians people often identify as (e.g., casual, CEO, charismatic). Have you ever used such labels? How do they compare to Jesus' call for discipleship?
- 3.) Reflect on Luke 14:28, where Jesus says to "count the cost" before following Him. What costs have you experienced or anticipate in following Christ?
- 4.) How do you respond to the statement that salvation "will cost you everything"? Does this challenge or affirm your current view of faith?
- 5.) The sermon outlined three key areas of discipleship: Word, Worship, and Witness. Which of these areas do you feel strongest in? Which needs the most growth?
- 6.) How can we avoid mistaking "good behavior for genuine transformation" in our Christian walk?
- 7.) Pastor Zach emphasized the importance of knowing God's Word. What practical steps can you take to engage more deeply with Scripture?

Practical Application

- 1.) *Word: Commit to a daily Bible reading plan for the next month. Share your plan with the group for accountability.*
- 2.) *Worship: Identify one way you can incorporate more intentional worship into your daily life this week (e.g., listening to worship music, journaling praises, etc.).*
- 3.) *Witness: Pray for an opportunity to share your faith journey with someone this week. Be prepared to report back to the group next time.*
- 4.) *Self-reflection: Take time this week to "count the cost" of your discipleship. Write down areas where you need to surrender more fully to Christ.*
- 5.) *Group challenge: Memorize Matthew 28:19-20 (the Great Commission) together over the next week.*