

## What Did Jesus Mean When He Said . . .

*Pastor Ray Swash*

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Luke 14.26 (TNIV)

*If you prefer father or mother over me, you don't deserve me. If you prefer son or daughter over me, you don't deserve me. If you don't go all the way with me, through thick and thin, you don't deserve me. If your first concern is to look after yourself, you'll never find yourself. But if you forget about yourself and look to me, you'll find both yourself and me.*

Matthew 10.37-38 (MESSAGE)

## Certainly not hatred towards one's family?

Aramaic word: 'hate' - "to love a great deal less."

Following Christ means I give my ALL:

- A) My **FIRST LOVE** is for God's will in my Life
- B) My identity is through my **RELATIONSHIP** in Jesus

*Whoever finds his life will lose it, and whoever loses his life for my sake will find it.*

Matthew 10.37 (NIV)

## Jesus saw through our excuses?

We are talking not about spiritual **FORMATION**,  
but about spiritual **TRANSFORMATION**.

### Can't **LET GO**:

*Then a teacher of the law came to Jesus and said, "Teacher, I will follow you any place you go." Jesus said to him, "The foxes have holes to live in, and the birds have nests, but the Son of Man has no place to rest his head." Another man, one of Jesus' followers, said to him, "Lord, first let me go and bury my father." But Jesus told him, "Follow me, and let the people who are dead bury their own dead."*

Matthew 18.19-22 (NCV)

### Is **HUNG UP** in the past:

*Jesus answered, "Anyone who starts plowing and keeps looking back isn't worth a thing to God's kingdom!"*

Luke 9.62 (CEV)

### Struggles with **COMPERMISE**:

*When Jesus heard this, he said to him, "One thing you still lack. Sell all that you have and give the money to the poor, and you will have treasure in heaven. Then come, follow me." But when the man heard this he became very sad, for he was extremely wealthy.*

Luke 18.22-23 (NET)

### Isn't **SOLD OUT**:

*For where your treasure is, there will your heart be also.*

Luke 12.34 (RSV)