

WEEKLY SUNDAY SCHOOL LESSON

The Cost of Discipleship



Text: Mark 10:17-27; 12:41-44

And when he was gone forth into the way, there came one running, and knelt to him, and asked him, Good Master, what shall I do that I may inherit eternal life?

And Jesus said unto him, Why callest thou me good? there is none good but one, that is, God.

Thou knowest the commandments, Do not commit adultery, Do not kill, Do not steal, Do not bear false witness, Defraud not, Honor thy father and mother.

And he answered and said unto him, Master, all these have I observed from my youth.

Then Jesus beholding him loved him, and said unto him, One thing thou lackest; go thy way, sell whatsoever thou hast, and give to the poor, and thou shalt have treasure in heaven: and come, take up the cross, and follow me.

And he was sad at that saying, and went away grieved: for he had great possessions.

And Jesus looked round about, and saith unto his disciples, How hardly shall they that have riches enter into the kingdom of God!

And the disciples were astonished at his words. But Jesus answereth again, and saith unto them, Children, how hard it is for them that trust in riches to enter into the kingdom of God!

It is easier for a camel to go through the eye of a needle, than for a rich man to enter the kingdom of God.

And they were astonished out of measure, saying among themselves, Who then can be saved?

And Jesus looking upon them saith, With men it is impossible, but not with God: for with God all things are possible.

And Jesus sat over against the treasury, and beheld how the people cast money into the treasury: and many that were rich cast in much.

And there came a certain poor widow, and she threw in two mites, which make a farthing.

And he called unto him his disciples, and saith unto them, Verily I say unto you, That this poor widow hath cast more in, than all they which have cast into the treasury:

For all they did cast in of their abundance: but she of her want did cast in all that she had, even all her living.

The International Uniform Sunday school lesson for April 29, The Cost of Discipleship. Mark 10:17-27; 12:41-44.

BY WM. E. GILROY, D. D., Editor of The Congregationalist.

The topic of this lesson for young people and adults is given as "The Peril of Riches." It is a good title in relation to the incident of the rich young man who came to Jesus, but it is apt to put the cost of discipleship too much upon a money basis to be quite as satisfactory as the general topic.

Possibly, however, we should face quite clearly and courageously the putting of the cost of discipleship upon a money basis even though that is not all that is involved. It is in the sort of adherence to truth and righteousness that means an actual sacrifice of self-interest that both the world and the church are conspicuously lacking.

Now and again one comes across types of people who give lavishly to good causes, where there seems to be associated with their gifts a fair amount of vain glory. Sometimes such givers wish to dominate by their influences the causes to which they give.

Sometimes the gift is strangely at variance with certain Christian things in their own lives. But after all, these cases are the exception, as are the genuine freeminded, free-hearted givers. The great mass of people are loath to give. They will talk a great deal about religion, but when it comes really to showing their love and their loyalty by sheer sacrifice of what they own, it is another matter. So we should not lay too little emphasis upon the peril of riches, or the love of money.

Deeper Meaning

But granted the truth of all this, the real sacrifices of Christian life and discipleship go deeper than material things. There is the surrender of life itself to the will of God, and when that is made it carries with it a sense of stewardship in relation to all one's possessions.

There are people who have achieved just such self-surrender. Their gifts do not begin to be totaled in actual contributions of money, for their whole lives are devoted to the causes in which they believe. They would not think of spending lavishly upon themselves

or of using the things that God has given them for unimportant or trivial ends.

They have achieved in their lives a central consecration of will and purpose to God, and even though they may attain great professional or business success, this is incidental to the supreme privilege of living to the glory of God.

It is in these, rather than in those whose religion is casual and simply a part of their lives, that we should find our great example of the highest Christian way and practice. It is in such souls who have achieved this crucial and central surrender to Christ that we find the highest example of discipleship; but in them it is not so much the cost of discipleship that we think of as its glory.

The more we look into this story of the rich young man who came to Jesus and who, when Jesus invited him to join the inner circle, turned away sorrowful, thinking of his great possessions, the more we realize that his failure was not so much because of his love of riches as because of a more crucial inner weakness in his character.

He had not come to the point where he was able to face a tremendous issue in a tremendous way. The trouble with him was not simply that he loved money, for the likelihood is that he had no more love of money than others.

The real trouble was that he lacked courage and the power of decision, that his religion was largely formal and superficial, a matter of propriety and conformity to rules rather than the dominance of his life by some profound sense of righteousness and truth and a masterful power of love and loyalty. Probably we should not condemn him too readily, for these are great things in which most men are lacking.

But when one thinks of such supreme opportunity that came to this young man, surely he might well pray that if such opportunity ever came his own way, he might not fail in the hour of invitation and testing.

Chance for All

As a matter of fact such opportunity does come to us all. It may not be to join the inner circle of discipleship, for we should remem-

The Race Was Over.

From Tit-Bits. Helen: I fear I have made a mistake. Ruth: Why?

Helen: Jack proposed in a taxicab. The minute I accepted he paid the fare and we got out and walked.

Q. Was Will Rogers really the mayor of Beverly Hills? J. V. N. A. Will Rogers was made the "good will" mayor of Beverly Hills, Cal., by the Chamber of Commerce, December 21, 1926.

TREES By Joyce Kilmer. I think that I shall never see A poem lovely as a tree. A tree whose hungry mouth is prest Against the earth's swt flowing breast; A tree that looks at God all day, And lifts her leafy arms to pray; A tree that may in summer wear A nest of robins in her hair; Upon whose bosom snow has lain Who intimately lives with rain. Poems are made by fools like me, But only God can make a tree.

THE DEATH OF FRANKLIN

(April 17, 1790) Thus, some tall tree that long hath stood The glory of its native wood, By storms destroyed, or length of years, Demands the tribute of our tears.

The pile, that took long time to raise, To dust returns by slow decays; But, when its destined years are o'er We must regret the loss the more.

So long accustomed to your air, The world laments your exit made; So long befriended by your aid, Philosopher, 'tis hard to part!

When monarchs tumble to the ground Successors easily are found; But, matchless Franklin! what a few Can hope to rival such as you, Who seized from kings their sceptered pride, And turned the lightning's darts aside!

National Origins.

From Christian Science Monitor. Congress has definitely shelved the national origins provision of the immigration act for at least another year. This postponement—the second which this intricate piece of legislation has experienced—probably points to an eventual repeal of that particular section of the law.

Originally it was to have gone into effect on April 1, 1927. Just prior to that time the House Immigration committee reported that "too much uncertainty exists as to the requirements of the law; the uncertainty will continue from year to year, it seems far better to have immigration quotas for the purpose of restriction fixed in such a manner as to be easily explained and understood by all," and, finally, "there is little to be gained by changing the method." The Senate concurred in this, and President Coolidge issued a proclamation postponing the going into force of the national origins section of the law.

This year much the same thing happened. The Senate committee voted unanimously for postponement of the provision, while still the committee members favored its definite repeal.

Opposition to the plan centers on the difficulty of ascertaining exactly what was the origin of the population of the United States in 1920. To trace the original or native stock of the United States it was decided to go back to 1790, when a census was taken. However, the records of the states of New Jersey, Delaware, Georgia, Kentucky and Tennessee were lost in the Washington conflagration of 1814. Another census was taken in 1800, but the returns from Georgia, Kentucky, Mississippi, New Jersey, Tennessee, Virginia, the Indian Territory, and the Northwest Territory are again missing.

Moreover, there is no means of checking the source of immigration from Europe during the first 70 years of American national life. Up until 1850 the master of each vessel simply informed the port authorities that he carried a certain number of immigrants, and if his vessel was British, the immigrants were classed as English, although they might actually have originated in any part of Europe.

Q. How were the funds raised to build the Moffat Tunnel? T. W.

A. The Commercial and National Chronicle says that a score of years ago Mr. Moffat and associate built the road from Denver over the Divide into Routt county, but the mountain curves and steep grades made it different from profitable operation. Since then the people of Colorado, and especially Denver, have wanted to tunnel the Rockies and lower the grade to make possible the successful operation of this road, and connection to Salt Lake. To accomplish this, a tunnel district was formed in 1922 composed of the counties of Denver, Grand, Routt, Moffat, and parts of Eagle, Gilpin, Boulder, Adams and Jefferson, and issued \$15,470,000 in bonds. The tunnel was completed and operation began February 25, 1923.

Q. When was modern shorthand invented? Short-hand dates back to 1588 when Dr. Timothy Bright produced a system in London. The system of John Willis, however, published in 1602, was the foundation of all subsequent ones.

ber that where Jesus called some to follow him he sent others back home to bear witness in their own environment to the new experience that they had found.

The latter thing is often harder, than the former, but this is sure, that to every man and woman God gives, through Christ, a call to a true life and ministry. The way of discipleship is open to us all. It is still, as of old, a way of glory.

Perhaps if we thought more of the glory and the privilege, we would not be so much concerned about the cost, or we would pay the cost without being conscious of any sacrifice. As a matter of fact we can never do anything for the Master in comparison with what he has done for us.

Original At Least.

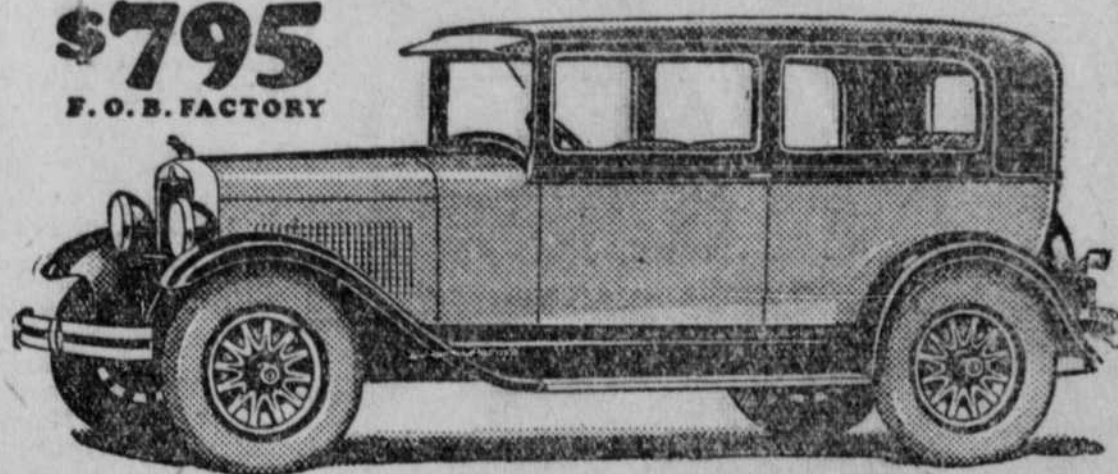
From Tit-Bits. A Chinese newspaper contained this letter from an applicant for work:

"Sir: I am Wang. I can drive a typewriter with good noise and my English is great. My last job has left itself from me, for the good reason that the large man has dead. It was no account of no fault of mine. So, honorable sirs, what about it? If I can be of big use to you, I will arrive on same date that you should guess."

STUDEBAKER

The Great Independent

\$795 F. O. B. FACTORY



ERSKINE SIX

STUDEBAKER'S new Erskine Club Sedan—with generous room for five adults offers big car comfort over unpaved roads, abundant power for hills or mud. In officially supervised tests, an Erskine Six sedan proved ability and durability by racing 1298 miles in 24 hours! A speed and endurance record for stock models under \$1000! You can drive this Erskine Six 40 miles per hour the day you buy it!—because of Studebaker's high quality materials, precision workmanship, inspections and engineering genius. Smooth 62-mile speed later. Studebaker's long established quality standards and large scale manufacturing save you

money in first cost and after cost. Values such as this are making 1928 the greatest year in Studebaker's 76-year history.

Dealers' Opportunities

Studebaker assists dealers to conduct their business on a profitable basis—sales training—financing—used car merchandising—advertising helps—accounting—service—etc. No wonder Studebaker-Erskine dealers make money with these 4 great lines: The new President Eight, \$1985 to \$2450. The World's Champion Commander, \$1465 to \$1625. The new Dictator, \$1195 to \$1395. The new Erskine Six, \$795 to \$965. Write or wire NOW for complete, confidential information if there is no dealer in your town or if you wish to move to a town where the Studebaker-Erskine franchise is available.

FREE "Trip through Studebaker Factories"

Every car owner, every family with children in grade or high school, will want this interesting free booklet, "A Trip Through Studebaker Factories." It pictures how your car is made—complete from molten metal to dynamometer tests of completed cars. If you cannot visit the huge Studebaker plants in South Bend this summer, send for this free book now—use coupon at right. See pictures of great Studebaker foundries where castings are made from molten iron ten times hotter than boiling water. See six-ton steam hammers forge Studebaker crankshafts. Learn how Studebaker springs are forged and tempered. Why Studebaker steel forgings are baked in huge ovens to insure great strength. Understand how a Studebaker steel body can be fused by electric arcs into one strong silent unit. See airplane views of Studebaker's 800-acre Proving Ground. Learn more about the 76-year-old company and the 21,000 men who build your Studebaker or Erskine. Send for this entertaining free booklet NOW! Use coupon.

THE STUDEBAKER CORP. OF AMERICA

Department J1, South Bend, Indiana

Please send me a free copy of your booklet, "A Trip Through Studebaker Factories," without cost or obligation to me.

Name _____

Street or R. F. D. _____

Town _____ State _____

Claims Most Valuable Dog

Because of his earning ability, Entry Badge, the prize-winning greyhound racer of England, is claimed to be the world's most valuable dog. He has won 11 of the 12 races in which he has been entered, his victory at the recent greyhound derby at London permitting his master, E. Baxter, to collect \$5,000 in prize money and an equal amount in bets. Experts say the market value of the dog is \$10,000 but Baxter says he would not take \$25,000 for him.

A Happy Mother

Monett, Mo.—"I was greatly benefited during expectancy by the use of Dr. Pierce's Favorite Prescription. I took several bottles. I also used the Pleasant Pellets all the time to keep my bowels regular and never had kidney trouble or any other trouble. My baby is strong and I believe it is due to my use of the 'Favorite Prescription'—Mrs. C. H. Heying, 506-3rd St. All dealers.

The use of Dr. Pierce's Favorite Prescription has made many women happy by making them healthy. Get it at once at your neighborhood store, in tablet or liquid form. Write Dr. Pierce, Pres. Invalids' Hotel in Buffalo, N. Y., for free advice.

Women Oddly Employed

Substituting the trowel and mortar for the rolling pin and cookbook, forty-five women in Liverpool, England, are engaged in the trade of bricklaying and building, the Commerce department reports. The women are said to be as efficient at their unusual task as are the masculine bricklayers. Two other Liverpool women fish for a living, the report revealed.

Eggs Not Good

There is a certain elderly woman who makes very fine lemon pie. One day she was giving a dinner and, of course, made a pie for it. The weather was very warm and the whites of the eggs did not whip well for the meringue. When the pie was served, one of the guests complimented her very highly on it. "Oh," she said, "it's not as good as usual. The eggs weren't good."

Cats Before Relatives

When the will of Mrs. Emma P. Bennett of Lindley, N. R., was probated it was found that her eight cats had fared better than her ten relatives. To the animal friends went a total of \$7,000, while the ten relatives had only \$4,450 to divide among themselves.

Program for Evening Formally Called Off

A well-known radio announcer was spending the night in the home of a friend. The host did not know that he was an accomplished snorer, and had given his guest the adjoining room, from which any sound was perfectly audible. They were just comfortably settled for the night when the announcer started "broadcasting." The entertainment was not favorably received, and the host was unable to sleep a wink and was contemplating some means for muffling the disturbing noises, when his guest stopped snoring abruptly and in a loud voice said: "Ladies and gentlemen, the program to which you have been listening is being broadcast to you through the courtesy of Blank & Co.," and with this he shifted his position and they both spent the remainder of the night in sleep.

Theory Not Practice

Wrestling instructor (after strenuous first lesson)—Well, do you think you'll like the course? Pupil—Yes, but I'll take the rest by correspondence.

The older the pessimist is the less faith he has in human nature.

Doctor at 83 Found People Preferred His Prescription

The basis of treating sickness has not changed since Dr. Caldwell left Medical College in 1875, nor since he placed on the market the laxative prescription he had used in his practice, known to druggists and the public since 1892, as Dr. Caldwell's Syrup Pepsin.

Then, the treatment of constipation, biliousness, headaches, mental depression, indigestion, sour stomach and other indispositions that result from constipation was entirely by means of simple vegetable laxatives, herbs and roots. These are still the basis of Dr. Caldwell's Syrup Pepsin, which is a combination of senna and other mild laxative herbs, with pepsin.

Dr. Caldwell did not approve of drastic physics and purges. He did not believe they were good for human beings to put into their system. If grown people want to use them no one can deny them the privilege, but they should never be given to children.

The simpler the remedy for constipation, the safer for the child and for you, and the better for the general health of all. And as you can get results in a mild and safe way by using Dr. Caldwell's Syrup Pepsin, why take

Anybody Wanting to Buy, Sell, Trade, No matter where located, write for DeBoys Real Estate Adv. Bulletin, Logan, Kansas.

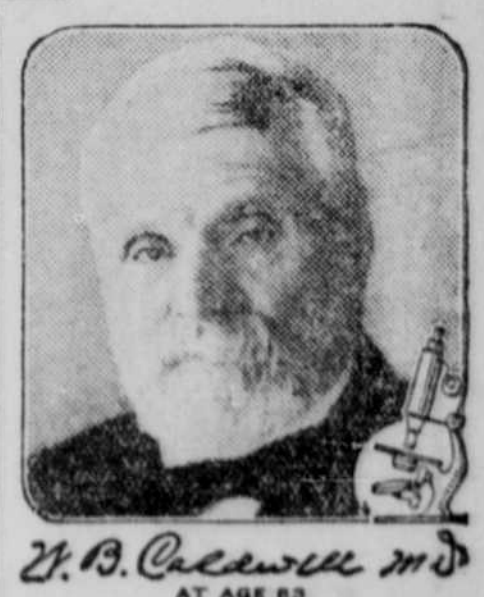
Opportunity, Salesmen Wanted—To sell best line of suits, overcoats, mailman's, sweaters, underwear, hosiery, for the entire family, direct to consumer. No investment required. Write for exclusive territory proposition. DULUTH WOOLEN CO., Duluth, Minn.



For Barbed Wire Cuts Hanford's Balsam of Myrrh Money back for first bottle if not melted. All dealers. SIOUX CITY PTG. CO., NO. 17-1928.

Why Bill Sent Regrets Mae-Bill can't come. He's in the hospital. Some one stepped on his pipe during the game. Bill—I don't see how that would make him have to go to the hospital. Mae—it was his windpipe.—Vancouver Province.

A soft answer may not always turn away wrath, but it saves a lot of time.



chances with strong drugs? All drug stores have the generous bottles. We would be glad to have you prove at our expense how much Dr. Caldwell's Syrup Pepsin can mean to you and yours. Just write "Syrup Pepsin," Monticello, Illinois, and we will send you prepaid a FREE SAMPLE BOTTLE.