

Priming the Pump

1. Begin by reading the Scripture for this week's message, Luke 9:51-62
2. In this week's message, the Spirit records three examples of people having to "count the cost" to become His disciples. Think about what you have given up for the sake of Jesus Christ. How can this be part of your testimony and evangelism to others?

Getting into the Word

3. Despite the frequent stumbling and failings of the disciples, Jesus rarely rebuked them harshly; but this is one passage where He did so. Read the below Scriptures where Jesus "rebuked" someone and write down why He was so harsh in that situation.
 - a. the storm: Matthew 8:26; Mark 4:39; Luke 8:24
 - b. demons: Matthew 17:18; Mark 1:25; 9:25; Luke 4:35, 41; 9:42;
 - c. Peter: Mark 8:33
 - d. the disciples: Mark 16:14; Luke 9:55 (this week's sermon)

Digging Deeper

4. Jesus calls for immediate and complete surrender of those who follow Him. In this week's sermon, potential disciples were told they would be homeless travelers, told to completely abandon family and social conventions, and told that even yearning for the past was an unworthy act.

Read the five Scriptures when Jesus said that to be His disciple, we must pick up our cross and follow Him. (Matthew 10:37-39; 16:24-26; Mark 8:34-36; Luke 9:23-25; 14:25-33) The imagery of crucifixion was poignant and clear to the people of the time. Examine your own life and consider if you have been following Him according to this standard?