



THE BROOKSVILLE BULLETIN

Brooksville church of Christ
604 W. Fort Dade Avenue, Brooksville, FL

September 5, 2021

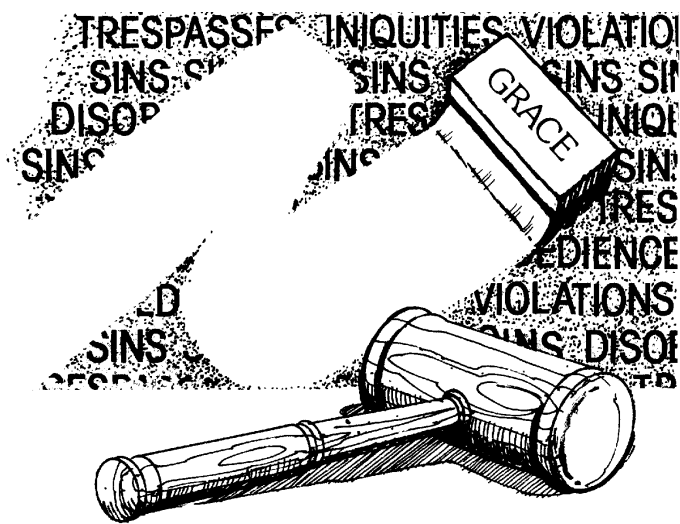
The Great Cost of Discipleship (Everitt Heaton)

While at the house of a ruler of the Pharisees on a particular Sabbath, Jesus gave some lessons about humility using the parable of attending a banquet. Someone who was reclining at the table with him spoke up and said, "Blessed is everyone who will eat bread in the kingdom of God!" (Luke 14:15). This man's statement holds a great truth because those who eat bread in the kingdom of God will be blessed. But it's apparent from the response that Jesus gives that something in this man's perspective and his statement needed some clarifying and teaching as well.

Again, using the parable of a great banquet, Jesus points out a strong reality in regards to the kingdom of God. But he said to him, "A man once gave a great banquet and invited many. And at the time



for the banquet, he sent his servant to say to those who had been invited, 'Come, for everything is now ready.' But they alike began to make excuses. The first said to him, 'I have bought a field, and I must go out and see it. Please have me excused.' And another said, 'I have bought five yokes of oxen, and I go to examine them. Please have me excused.' And another said, 'I have married a wife, and therefore I cannot come.' So the servant came and reported these things to his master. Then the master of the house became angry and said to his servant, 'Go out quickly to the streets and lanes of the city and bring in the poor and crippled and blind and lame.' And the servant said, 'Sir, what you commanded has been done, and still there is room.' And the master said to the servant, 'Go out to the highways and hedges and compel people to come in, that my house may be filled. For I tell you, none of those men who were invited shall taste my banquet.'" (Luke 14:16-24)



Then Jesus turned to many who were with Him and listening to what He was saying and said - "If anyone comes to me and does not hate his own father and mother and wife and children and brothers and sisters, yes, and even his own life, he cannot be my disciple. Whoever does not bear his own cross and come after me cannot be my disciple. For which of you, desiring to build a tower, does not first sit down and count the cost, whether he has enough to complete it? Otherwise, when he has laid a foundation and is not able to finish, all who see it begin to mock him, saying, 'This man began to build and was not able to finish.' Or what king, going out to encounter another king in war, will not sit down first and deliberate whether he is able with ten thousand to meet him who comes against him with twenty thousand? And if not, while the other is yet a great way off, he sends a delegation and asks for terms of peace. So, therefore, any one of you who does not renounce all that he has cannot be my disciple." (Luke 14:26-33)

Because of these three main areas, Jesus went on to teach the crowds and encourage them to count the cost. Jesus says that they need to hate their own families to be His disciple seems a little harsh at first. We, of course, know from the context and the definition of the word itself that Jesus isn't actually saying to hate them in the way we commonly use the word but simply means to love them less than we love Christ or God.

He tells them about the need to bear their own cross. Interestingly, Jesus uses this illustration considering that while we automatically associate it with Jesus going to the cross, at this point, He obviously hadn't yet, so what meaning did they associate with it? They would have understood it to mean that they must faithfully follow Him despite the shame, disgrace, persecution, burden, and hardship that may come with their service. Lastly, in verse 33, Jesus concludes by simply saying if one is not prepared to renounce all that, they cannot be a disciple. This is more about willingness and preparedness than it is the literal command to do so.

Every disciple must be prepared and truly willing to renounce all to follow Him faithfully. Every disciple must be prepared and truly committed to keeping their priorities and relationships in the right place

regarding our commitment and service to Him.

The good news is that you're invited to the banquet. The man had it right when he said, "Blessed is everyone who will eat bread in the kingdom of God!" In John's recorded Revelation, he tells us that "The Spirit and the Bride say, 'Come.' And let the one who hears say, 'Come.' And let the one who is thirsty come; let the one who desires take the water of life without price." It's such an amazing invitation that only by God's grace, love, and mercy are we invited. But we must count the cost.

Counting the cost can seem at times too heavy to bear, but Jesus reminds us in Matthew 11:29-30 that He is "gentle and lowly in heart, and you will find rest for your souls. For my yoke is easy, and my burden is light." As we humbly accept God's invitation, be watchful for Satan's classic hurdles that Jesus so clearly points out. Don't let perceived obligations, out-of-place priorities, or earthly relationships come between us and our desire to faithfully serve Him each day.

On The Lighter Side Of LOVE

- ☞ Love – perpetual emotion.
- ☞ Love – the only fire against which there is no insurance.
- ☞ Love – a heartburn; a heart attack.

☞ Love – an island of emotion entirely surrounded by an ocean of expenses.

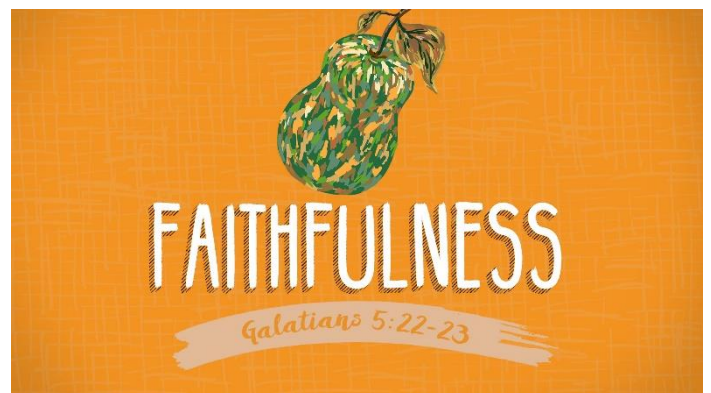
☞ Love – the softening of the heart.

☞ The cure for love at first sight: second sight.

☞ Love is something different from delirium, but it's hard to tell the difference.

☞ Better to have loved a short man than never to have loved a tall.

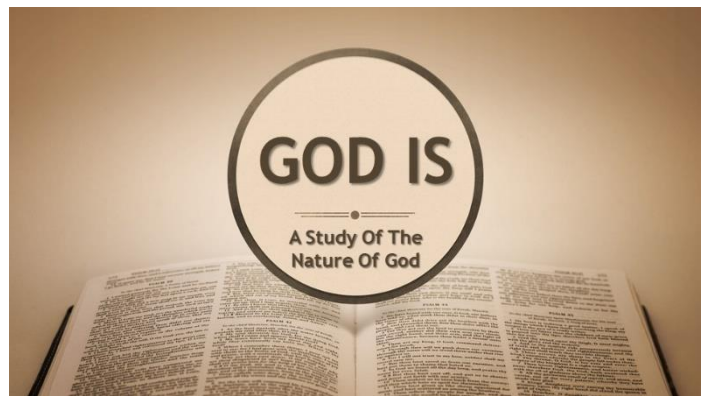
☞ Shotgun wedding – where you get married for better or hearse.



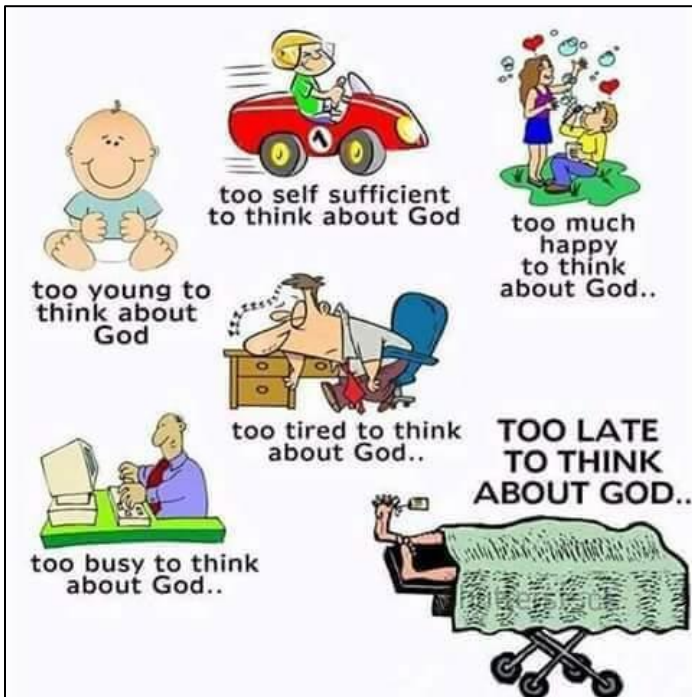
A Light For The Church (Anonymous)

A traveler came to a small village. The night was coming on, and people were hurrying through the streets carrying brass lamps. When he asked about this, the reply was that the people were all going to the village church building. When the building was built, it had been decided that each member would bring their own light, and there would be no other way to light up the building. So, each person realized that if he were not there, the building would be darker. As more and more members came, the

church building became brighter and brighter. We need to realize that the church needs the light of every member, not just on Sunday morning but also Sunday night and Wednesday night. How often do you bring your light?



**Wednesday – September 8
God Is My Strength And Power
(John Weaver)**



Secrets Of Happiness

1. Keep skid chains on your tongue; always say less than you think.
2. Make promises sparingly, but keep your promise faithfully, no matter what it costs you.

3. Never let an opportunity pass to say a kind and encouraging word to someone. Praise good work, no matter who did it.
4. Show your interest in others. Let everyone you meet feel that you regard him as a person of importance.
5. Let your virtues speak for themselves and refuse to talk about another person's vices. Discourage gossip. Make it a rule to say nothing unless it is something positive.
6. Pay no attention to cutting or critical remarks about you: lives so nobody will believe them.
7. Pray without ceasing.

Brooksville Church of Christ

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Times of Services

Sunday Bible Class for all ages (10:00am)
Sunday Worship all Welcome (11:00am & 6:00pm)
Wednesday Bible Class for all ages (7:00pm)

Supporting the GOSPEL in other places:

- ↪ Jamey Hinds, Hollywood, Florida; Roy Fenner, Panama City, Florida
- ↪ Zeke Flores, Columbus, Texas; The saints in Nicaragua

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