

A Disciple-making Church  
Luke 14:25-35

And Jesus came and said to them, “All authority in heaven and on earth has been given to me. Go therefore and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit”

“teaching them to observe all that I have commanded you. And behold, I am with you always, to the end of the age.” - Matthew 28:18-20

The mission of Lexington Baptist Church is to make disciples of Jesus in Lexington and around the world.

Now great crowds accompanied him, and he turned and said to them, “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.” - Luke 14:25-26

“Whoever does not bear his own cross and come after me cannot be my disciple.” - Luke 14:27

Discipleship is when you realize that Jesus is more important than your stuff, your people and yourself.

“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.’” - Luke 14:28-30

“Cheap grace is the preaching of forgiveness without requiring repentance, baptism without church discipline, Communion without confession, absolution without personal confession.”

“Cheap grace is grace without discipleship, grace without the cross, grace without Jesus Christ, living and incarnate.”

“Costly grace is the treasure hidden in the field; for the sake of it a man will go and sell all that he has. It is the pearl of great price to buy which the merchant will sell all his goods.”

“It is the kingly rule of Christ, for whose sake a man will pluck out the eye which causes him to stumble; it is the call of Jesus Christ at which the disciple leaves his nets and follows him.”

“Costly grace is the gospel which must be sought again and again, the gift which must be asked for, the door at which a man must knock.”

- Dietrich Bonhoeffer, “The Cost of Discipleship”

“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.” - Luke 14:31-32

“So therefore, any of you who does not renounce all that he has cannot be my disciple.”  
- Luke 14:33

If you're not willing to take what is dearest to you, whether plans or people, and kiss it goodbye, you can't be my disciple.” - Luke 14:33 *The Message*

But whatever gain I had, I counted as loss for the sake of Christ. Indeed, I count everything as loss because of the surpassing worth of knowing Christ Jesus my Lord.

For his sake I have suffered the loss of all things and count them as rubbish, in order that I may gain Christ. - Philippians 3:7-8

Whoever loves his life loses it, and whoever hates his life in this world will keep it for eternal life. - John 12:25

And he said to all, “If anyone would come after me, let him deny himself and take up his cross and follow me. For whoever would save his life will lose it, but whoever loses his life for my sake will save it.” - Luke 9:23-24

A disciple-making church doesn't dumb down the gospel, but instead, helps people make the hard choices Jesus calls on all of us to make.

“Salt is good, but if salt has lost its taste, how shall its saltiness be restored? It is of no use either for the soil or for the manure pile. It is thrown away. He who has ears to hear, let him hear.  
- Luke 14:34-35

The main thing for every church is to make disciples.

A disciple-making church is intentional.

A disciple-making church is counter-cultural.

A disciple-making church is simple.

A disciple-making church is patient.