

God Honoring Grit

God never promised things were going to be easy. In fact, Luke 14:26-27 suggests in following Him we must bear our own cross to be His disciple. In this session, you will discover the keys to getting things done in a way that honors God.

Focus Competency: Getting things done by exhibiting God honoring grit.

Assignments

- Read the Scripture passage and answer the questions (below)
- Read the article, "True Grit" www.desiringgod.org/articles/true-grit
- Listen to Josh Gagnans Leadership Podcast Forward Thinking Leaders Ep# 161
- Interview a leader at MCC and discuss with them how they get things done when no one is there to support them or there's no "how to" guide.
- Make a list of things in your current role you would like to see improved and set out an action plan to make it happen.
- Meet with your leader/mentor to discuss what you learned from this session and to share your improvement plan.
- Make your Improvement Plan happen.

Read Luke 14:24-33

Take a look at what Jesus says in Luke 14 about what it takes to be a true disciple. Jesus is unashamed and unafraid of telling us up front it's going to be hard – the painful cost of being a Christian: hating family (verse 26), carrying a cross (verse 27), renouncing possessions (verse 33). There is no small print in the covenant of grace. No cheap grace! Very costly! Come, and be my disciple.

While Satan hides his worst (eternal suffering) and shows his best. Yes, Jesus calls us to suffering and self-denial but first He calls us to the banquet! Verses 16-24 Jesus promises a glorious resurrection where all the losses of this life will be repaid. He also tells us that he will help us endure the hardships (Luke 11-13).

BIBLE STUDY QUESTIONS

- *What does God promise you in this life and the next? Contrast this with Satan's offer.*

- *Following Christ is a call to selfless service. Calculate this cost, weigh the worst and the best – answer for yourself if He worth it?*
- *Review the story of Jesus told in Luke and think about how he went about His fathers work. The challenges He overcame and what He did to get it done while always pointing to heaven.*

Finding A Way

Often one is faced with a goal with no specific script or how to guide to accomplish it. Not unlike many job responsibilities and duties at Mission City Church. Sure, job descriptions are in place and there are systems and processes but they don't address everything. So, what do you do when you have a task to do and you are presented with: 1) no clear direction, 2) a situation arises that is out of the norm, 3) you see a way to do it better?

Below are five key steps to using God honoring grit to get things done:

- 1) **Take responsibility for your assignment.** No matter how big or small know that you are responsible and a key to the success of the team. Scripture show that we are all part of the body and that if one suffers we all suffer (1Corinthians 12:26), it also tells us if whoever can be trusted with small things will be rewarded with bigger things (Luke 16:10).
- 2) **Do things with excellence.** God is worth our very best. He has given so much to us and loves us so much doing things to the best of our abilities will fill your soul with God light.
- 3) **As Jesus did, start with prayer.** If in an urgent situation that prayer can be quick and decisive but always ask for God's guidance.

- 4) **Never forget the people.** In the secular world we are often rewarded for getting tasks done at the expense of others. The Church is about others, always put God first and love on others. With this priority in mind now you can push to get your task accomplished.

- 5) **Consult your team leader.** Most situations have been encountered before, the person leading the team was once in your shoes. Pull them aside, or call/text/slack them and they should be a tremendous help. When possible think things through and approach your team leader with a problem and a solution. It feels good to be part of the solve and often your ideas, as the one closest to the issue, is the best path provided you keep in mind step #2.

Questions

- Think of a time you tackled an obstacle at home or work and how you persevered. Think about the steps you took and how they line-up with the five steps above. Now place yourself in a church setting what would you do differently to honor God? What would you do the same?

- Which of the five steps do you think will be the most challenging for you? Why? Which will be the easiest for you? What steps will you take to improve?

- What action steps do you need to take over the next 30 days to improve your God honoring grit?