



The Cost Of Discipleship - Week Two

The Mirror & The Cross

John 3:13-17

The cost of discipleship leads to self-awareness

It's (Still)The Season of Pentecost!

We are teaching through a sermon series in September, entitled "The Cost of Discipleship."

Dietrich Bonhoeffer - Cheap vs Costly Grace

Today, we're going to read perhaps one of the most famous verses in the Bible and how it has become so widely misinterpreted.

What Do You Know About John 3:16?

It pops up everywhere.

It's used to point to an exclusive claim

But what if there was more to this beloved verse than meets the eye?

What if there's more to it? What if it is meant to hold a mirror up to us?

THE COST OF DISCIPLESHIP LEADS TO SELF-AWARENESS

John 3:13-17

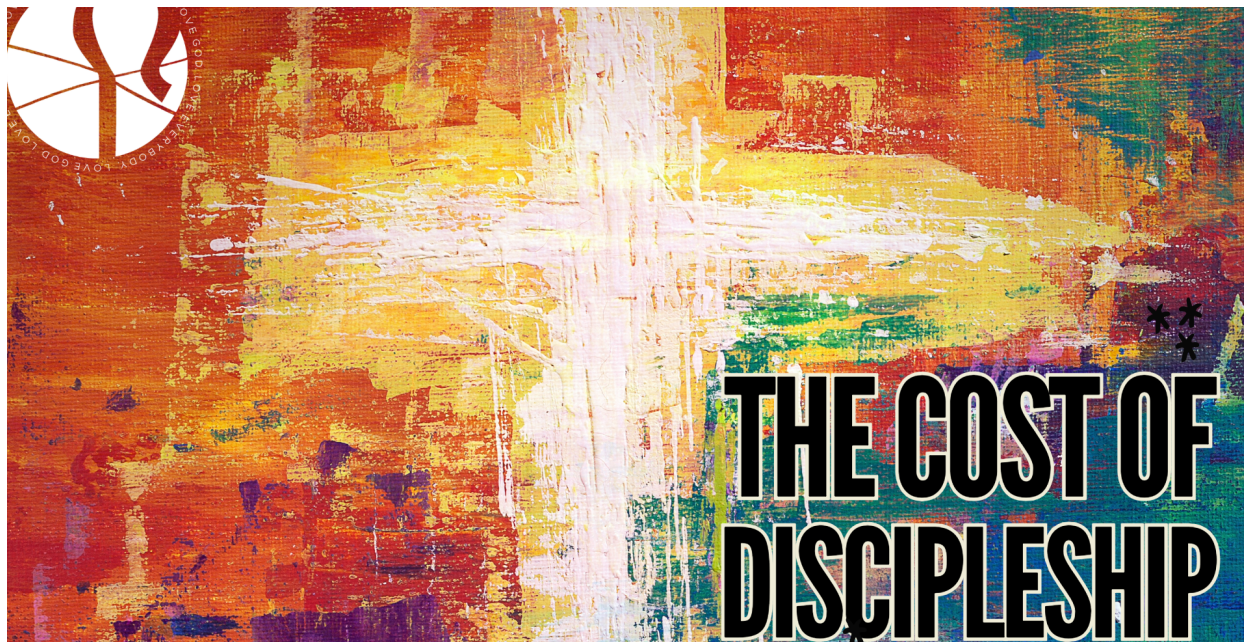
- The context of this particular conversation - Nicodemus*
- Jesus teaches that to see the Kingdom, a rebirth is required*
- The story of Moses and the serpent - Numbers 21*
- The symbol becomes a mirror; What do we see in it?*
- The grammar of John 3:16 - It changes things a bit.*
- Then there's John 3:17 - why this should matter to us.*

If you believe John 3:16 is on an island, you miss what comes before and what comes after: self-awareness and grace.

What Do We Learn Here?

- 1. Just saying the words doesn't mean that you get it.*
- 2. Are we still participating in the destruction or trying to heal it?*
- 3. There's nothing exclusive about the grace of God.*

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SERMON EXTRAS & FURTHER READING

FOR FURTHER READING:

The Cost of Discipleship

Dietrich Bonhoeffer

Following Jesus: Biblical Reflections on Discipleship

NT Wright

Following Jesus: Finding Our Way Home In An Age of Anxiety

Henri Nouwen

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