



A Long "Luke" at the Book of Acts

"Cawwy Your Cwoss"
The Cost of Discipleship
Luke 14:25-27



A Study on the
Biblical Works of Luke
Luke 1:1 - Acts 28:31
2/15/26



Psalm 1:1-3

Blessed is the one who does not walk in step with the wicked or stand in the way that sinners take or sit in the company of mockers, but whose delight is in the law of the Lord, and who meditates on his law day and night. That person is like a tree planted by streams of water, which yields its fruit in season and whose leaf does not wither – whatever they do prospers. NIV

What does it mean to be a true disciple of Jesus? When he says "carry your cross", what does he actually mean by that? It's not as though he actually wants us to carry a physical cross - he already did that, after all. And if we can't earn our salvation anyway, what's the point?

To answer that question, we have to think about what the cross represents. In the case of Jesus, the cross what he is sacrificed on for our sins. So perhaps what he is asking us is to always be in a position of sacrifice. Not that he is wanting us to live dull and humdrum lives, but rather, there is joy in serving Jesus! To carry our cross means to deny ourselves and follow him, adopt his lifestyle and tell others the good news that he has come. This weekend at New Heights, we'll return to our series on the book of Luke and talk a little bit more about it means to carry our cross and follow him. Hope to see you there!

- Zach

Sermon in a Sentence

"Salvation may be _____, but there is a _____ to following Jesus."

Today's Scripture

John 14:25-27

Psalm 1:1-3

1 Thessalonians 5:16-18

Hebrews 10:25-28

1 John 1:8-10

Something Worth Noting

"Salvation may be _____, but there is a COST to following _____."

"__ can't be who _____ unless _____ is who _____."

Three Weekly Challenges Relate to:

1. _____
2. _____
3. _____

Something Worth Quoting

"The greatest single cause of atheism in the world today is Christians: who acknowledge Jesus with their lips, walk out the door, and deny Him by their lifestyle. That is what an unbelieving world simply finds unbelievable." - Brennan Manning

Weekly Prayer Requests

Guy Nichols	Lawrence Johnson
Savannah Higgs	Beth Rowland
Sam Clark	Jason Woods
Lori Higgs	Lynne Wilhelm's Family
Donna Parrett	

* Names will stay on the current list for three weeks. Please inform the office if you wish for a name to remain on this list or be transferred to the long-term list. Names marked with ** will be moved to the long-term prayer list the following week. The long-term prayer list is located in the foyer.



Vitals for February 8

Weekly Need: \$3,200
 Actual Given: \$2866
 Sunday School -18
 Morning Service - 58



Bridal Shower
 You are invited to a
 Bridal Shower
 Honoring
 Sloane Lakin
 Saturday, March 14th, 2026
 @ 2:00 pm at
 New Heights Christian Church
 RSVP to Diane Jennings
 (765) 265-6173

3 easy ways to give:

- 'Tithes & Offerings' box in the lobby
- newheightsconnersville.com/giving
- Mail to the church office



Jesus Girls' Paint & Praise
 The votes have been counted,
 and we have a tie!
 A tie-breaking vote will be held
 in the foyer to determine the
 winner.
 Cast your final vote to
 decide what we will be
 painting!

ZACH KORFF
 LEAD PASTOR
 812-631-6872
zach@newheightsconnersville.com

BRYAN JENNINGS
 Elder

BRIAN CLARK
 Elder

BRIAN KENNEDY
 Elder

CAROL CLARK
 Office Manager
carol@newheightsconnersville.com

DEACONS:
 Robert Chalker
 Collin Clark
 Adam Martin



**YOUTH GROUP
 TONIGHT!**

JOIN US FOR FUN, FOOD
 & FELLOWSHIP!

**3RD -12TH
 GRADES**



Mindy Kennedy 2/22
 Bea Burgdoerfer 2/24



February

What's Happening

March

2/18 NHCC Serving @ The Haven - 5:30- 6 pm
 (Sign-up sheet in the foyer.)
 2/21 - Jesus Girls' Paint & Praise 11 am -2 pm



3/7- Men's Mentorship 8:00 am
 3/10 - Jesus Girls Ladies' Ministry- 6 pm
 3/18 NHCC Serving @ The Haven - 5:30-
 6 pm (Sign-up sheet in the foyer.)

Contact us:
 765-825-9132

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Mahoning Valley Winter Retreats

The Well- 9th -12th : Feb 13-15th

Prayer Starter Examples

- “God, I am here to talk to you about...”
- “Help me to understand how to...”
- “I want to know you better by...”
- “Thank you for inviting me into conversation with You...”

NHCC Prayer Guide

February 15, 2026

Explore the scriptures from this week's sermon and turn them into heartfelt personal prayers.

Let's Pray:

Praise
Repent
Ask
Yield

THIS WEEK'S SERMON IN A SENTENCE:

"SALVATION MAY BE FREE, BUT THERE IS A COST TO FOLLOWING JESUS."

Today's Scripture :

A large crowd was following Jesus. He turned around and said to them, "If you want to be my disciple, you must, by comparison, hate everyone else—your father and mother, wife and children, brothers and sisters—yes, even your own life. Otherwise, you cannot be my disciple. And if you do not carry your own cross and follow me, you cannot be my disciple."
Luke 14:25-27 NLT

Monday

Today's Prayer Focus

Start this week out with serious self-reflection.

Ask Yourself:

- Do I yield to the Lord in every area —my possessions, my family, even my own life?
- Do I really trust him to care for me?
- Have I counted the cost of discipleship?
- Do I trust him to empower me to represent Jesus to a lost and dying world?

Carrying our own cross means self-denial, complete dedication, and a willing obedience to Christ.

- Am I prepared to be fully dedicated and obedient to Christ, even to the point of sacrificing my own life?

Ask God: Instill in me an unwavering commitment to follow Christ and share the Gospel with this world in need, no matter what it may cost me.

Today's Scripture

Blessed is the one who does not walk in step with the wicked or stand in the way that sinners take or sit in the company of mockers, but whose delight is in the law of the Lord, and who meditates on his law day and night. That person is like a tree planted by streams of water, which yields its fruit in season and whose leaf does not wither — whatever they do prospers. Psalm 1:1-3

Tuesday

Today's Prayer Focus

God promises to guide you clearly when you listen for His voice.

Ask Him to help you recognize His voice above all the other voices competing for your attention - your own desires, the expectations of others, and cultural pressures.

Meditate on His Word. Sit with the scriptures and let them soak into your mind and heart. Ask Holy Spirit to bring verses to mind when you need them. Lean into the inner peace that can be found when making decisions based on His Word.

His Word never fails!

Today's Scripture

1 Thessalonians 5:16-18

Be joyful always; pray continually; give thanks in all circumstances, for this is God's will for you in Christ Jesus. NIV

Wednesday

Today's Prayer Focus

Prayer doesn't have to be formal or long to be meaningful. Practice "continual prayer" by having brief conversations with God throughout your day - thanking Him, asking for help or simply acknowledging His presence. Don't forget to practice gratitude. It is an important part of prayer. Even when life is tough and challenging, there are always reasons to thank God. Practice finding things to be grateful for today, both obvious blessings and hidden gifts.

Today's Scripture

Let us hold unwaveringly to the hope we profess, for he who promised is faithful. And let us consider how we may spur one another on toward love and good deeds, not giving up meeting together, as some are in the habit of doing, but encouraging one another—and all the more as you see the Day approaching.
Hebrews 10:23-25

Thursday

Today's Prayer Focus

Begin today by asking God to create in you a heart to encourage others. Pray for opportunities to build others up with your words and actions. Think about someone around you today who needs encouragement and ask God to show you how you can be used by Him to bring hope and the love of Christ into their life.

Friday *Today's Scripture*

If we claim to be without sin, we deceive ourselves and the truth is not in us. If we confess our sins, he is faithful and just and will forgive us our sins and purify us from all unrighteousness. If we claim we have not sinned, we make him out to be a liar and his word has no place in our lives. 1 John 1:8-10 NIV

Today's Prayer Focus

Confession clears the air between us and God. He already knows every sin we have committed and every sin we will commit, yet He still loves us. Saying these things out loud to Him removes the barriers in our relationship and opens up our hearts to more fully receive His grace. Bringing our mistakes into the light of God's love allows our souls to feel the relief of His sweet forgiveness. Remember, there is no condemnation in Christ, only freedom.

Something Worth Quoting

"The greatest single cause of atheism in the world today is Christians: who acknowledge Jesus with their lips, walk out the door, and deny Him by their lifestyle. That is what an unbelieving world simply finds unbelievable." - Brennan Manning

Today's Scripture

Jesus replied, "You must love the Lord your God with all your heart, all your soul, and all your mind." Matthew 22:37

Saturday

Today's Prayer Focus

We have spent this week focusing on what it cost us to follow Jesus. This final verse sums it all up.

It will cost us ALL we have!

ALL our heart, ALL our soul, ALL our mind. It will cost us our all of our desires, our will, even our lives. It is a high price to pay, but it is worth it!

Don't forget, Jesus tells us in Matthew 10:39b: "if you give up your life for me, you will find it." Ask God for strength and joy in the midst of surrender.

KEY SCRIPTURE FOR THE WEEK:

A LARGE CROWD WAS FOLLOWING JESUS. HE TURNED AROUND AND SAID TO THEM, "IF YOU WANT TO BE MY DISCIPLE, YOU MUST, BY COMPARISON, HATE EVERYONE ELSE—YOUR FATHER AND MOTHER, WIFE AND CHILDREN, BROTHERS AND SISTERS—YES, EVEN YOUR OWN LIFE. OTHERWISE, YOU CANNOT BE MY DISCIPLE. AND IF YOU DO NOT CARRY YOUR OWN CROSS AND FOLLOW ME, YOU CANNOT BE MY DISCIPLE." LUKE 14:25-27 NLT

Challenge Number Two:

Challenge Number Two: Relate to the CHURCH

"Being plugged into the church is not only a great way to make friends and stay rooted in Christ, it's a good way to keep ourselves from burning out and staying on fire with him. As iron sharpens iron, so we sharpen one another - so let's not get into the habit of neglecting our meeting, but be here for and with each other all the more as we see the day approaching"

Challenge Number Three:

Challenge Number Three: Relate to SINNERS

"Not because we want to strengthen each other in our sin, but rather the opposite - by meeting together regularly and confessing our sins to one another, we keep sin "sinful" in our eyes. Let's keep spurring one another on toward love and good deeds, and leave the sinful life behind, helping our fellow sinners to do so as well."

Zach's

Three Weekly Challenges

Challenge Number One:

Challenge Number One: Relate to JESUS

"Genuine discipleship begins when we simply begin to know Jesus. We do this best by communicating to him through prayer and allowing him to communicate to us by way of his Word. Imagine that - a preacher on Sunday morning telling you to read the Bible and to pray. Well, that's what Paul suggests - be joyful, pray continually, give thanks in all circumstances - try it for yourself and see if you're relationship with him doesn't improve. Yes, the relationship certainly goes deeper and becomes more complex, but it starts here."