

**Life Group Notes**  
**Sunday 06 May 2018**

**Speaker:** Sean Green

**Series:** Followers of Jesus

**Title:** Follow Me

**Followers who actually Follow:** On facebook, you can be friends and follow someone at no cost. But this is not what Jesus meant when he said, 'follow me'. He called people into immediate, active, lifelong following. This is much more than 'mouse click' following.

**The Joy of following:** Imagine stumbling upon a treasure in a field that is more valuable than anything else you could work for or ever find. In your excitement and joy, you willingly sell everything you own to raise money to buy the field. Why? Because you have found something worth losing everything for. This is how Jesus described the excitement and joy of finding and following him ([Matt 13v44](#)). We are to raise our expectations to this teaching, asking the Spirit to help us rediscover that joy and excitement.

**The cost of following (unfinished towers):** Jesus called people to follow him AND consider the cost, ([Luke 14v28-30](#)). The landowner in the story needed to sit down and ask '*am I willing to fully commit all I have to finish this tower?*'. Only then can they expect success. The lesson is plain: anyone who follows Jesus must count the cost and be fully committed to complete the build. Unfinished towers mock God.

**The Cost of following (the stronger king):** Jesus told a parable about a King being invaded by a stronger King, ([Luke 14v31-33](#)). He needs to weigh up the consequences of battling a King twice his strength. If he is not able to win, he will ask for terms of peace. In the same way, Jesus is the far stronger king and we are the weaker king. If we oppose Him, we will not win and we will lose everything. Therefore, we should wisely assume that all we have (our kingdom and treasure), is now His as tribute. Most likely we get to steward it on his behalf, but it's no longer ours.

**Staying Salty:** Salt can't lose its taste but its effectiveness can be radically diluted by mixing it other impurities, rendering it 'unsalty'. Jesus told a parable about salt and the cost of following him. ([Lk 14v34-35](#)). The message is clear. Christ followers who allow themselves to be diluted, mixed with impurities, lose their saltiness and are useless to everyone. A cost of following Jesus is the resolve to maintain our saltiness.

**Suggested questions:**

*Follower who follow:* What does a 'mouse click follower' of Jesus look like?

*Unfinished towers:* How is yours progressing?

*The stronger king:* How is your stewardship?

*Staying salty:* What are you doing that is refining your saltiness?