

The Cost of Being a Disciple - tower

CHARACTERS: 3

RUN TIME: 2 minutes

SCRIPTURE/BASED ON: Luke 14:31-33

BILL the BUILDER: Welcome to Builder Bill's architecture. How can I help you?

C: We both want to build towers. How much will it cost?

BILL the BUILDER: Depends. (to A) Describe your tower.

A: Twenty stories high, reflective glass windows and orange carpet. I want a huge fountain in the downstairs lobby.

BILL THE BUILDER: What kind of fountain?

A: Enormous. Big enough for a huge fish like the one that swallowed Jonah. Every 20 minutes it would spit out a Jonah doll into a blue lagoon.

BILL THE BUILDER: Let's get you an estimate of the cost. Twenty stories – 10 million dollars to start.

A: 10 million! I only have 6 million.

BILL THE BUILDER: You could skip the orange carpet and just use every day stuff.

A: No.

BILL THE BUILDER: How about regular glass and a small goldfish pond?

A: No. I'll have to cash in all my stocks, bonds, everything I own. But it's worth it. You got yourself a deal. *A and BILL THE BUILDER shake hands*

BILL THE BUILDER: (to C) How can I help you?

C: I want 10 stories, green carpet and a bowling alley in the basement

BILL: That will run you 10 million.

C: I'll give you six.

BILL: Then you'll have to build smaller.

C: No way. I don't need your help. I'll just pour concrete and start building myself.

BILL THE BUILDER: If you lay the foundation and are not able to finish it, everyone who sees it will ridicule you.

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A: *(To audience)* Sure enough. My tower looked fabulous when it was finished and sadly, C's tower was half built and ridiculed.

C: I hate people making fun of me. I should have listened to that builder guy.

A: Jesus, the son of a carpenter, knew how to build more than furniture and houses. He knew how to build indestructible lives. Just as I had to give up everything, so do his disciples.

C: In the same way, those who do not give up everything they have cannot be Christ's disciples.

Counting the Cost - King

CHARACTERS: 3 NARR/King, Jesus, A

RUN TIME: 2 minutes

SCRIPTURE/BASED ON: Luke 14:31-33, 1 Kings 20

NARR: Large crowds were traveling with Jesus

JESUS: If anyone comes to me and does love less father and mother, wife and children, brothers and sisters—yes, even their own life—such a person cannot be my disciple. Whoever does not carry their cross and follow me cannot be my disciple.

A: Jesus, that is hard to do.

NARR: Jesus told this parable to help the people understand.

JESUS: Suppose a king is about to go to war against another king. Won't he first sit down and consider whether he is able with ten thousand men to oppose the one coming against him with twenty thousand?

A: That only makes sense.

JESUS: If he is not able, he will send a delegation while the other is still a long way off and will ask for terms of peace. (*exits*)

A: This reminds me of what happened in 1 Kings 20 when King Ahab was being attacked.

NARR: Yes. Let's act it out. I'll be the king and you be the king's advisor.

A: Sire, Ben-Hadad king of Aram and his army marches against us.

KING: How many troops does he have?

A: Many; 32 kings with their horses and chariots and 20,000 soldiers

KING: How many soldiers do we have?

A: 10,000

KING: They have twice as many as we do. What do you suggest?

A: We could send a peace delegation.

KING: Make it so. See what Ben-Hadad wants to stop this war.

A: Ben-Hadad sends this message "Your silver and gold are mine, and the best of your wives and children are mine."

KING: Send back this message: "Just as you say, my lord the king. I and all I have are yours."

A: I get it now. King Ahab had to give up everything to avoid losing the war.

JESUS: (*enter*) In the same way, those of you who do not give up everything you have cannot be my disciples.