



## **GROWTH**

September 13, 2020

### **The Growth Mark**

Live a surrendered life under Christ's leadership, through obedience and dependence on the Holy Spirit.

#### **Is discipleship optional or essential?**

##### **Luke 14:25-27**

<sup>25</sup> Now great crowds accompanied him, and he turned and said to them, <sup>26</sup> "If anyone comes to me and does not hate his own father and mother and wife and children and brothers and sisters, yes, and even his own life, he cannot be my disciple. <sup>27</sup> Whoever does not bear his own cross and come after me cannot be my disciple.

##### **Luke 14:28-30**

<sup>28</sup> For which of you, desiring to build a tower, does not first sit down and count the cost, whether he has enough to complete it? <sup>29</sup> Otherwise, when he has laid a foundation and is not able to finish, all who see it begin to mock him, <sup>30</sup> saying, 'This man began to build and was not able to finish.'

##### **Luke 14:31-32**

<sup>31</sup> Or what king, going out to encounter another king in war, will not sit down first and deliberate whether he is able with ten thousand to meet him who comes against him with twenty thousand? <sup>32</sup> And if not, while the other is yet a great way off, he sends a delegation and asks for terms of peace. <sup>33</sup> So therefore, any one of you who does not renounce all that he has cannot be my disciple.

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## Reflection Questions

Have you ever sat down and measured the cost of being a disciple? When was that? Why did you make the decision you made?

Is there any part of your life that needs to be surrendered to Christ? Here are some examples:

- Relationships - friends, family, neighbours
- Thoughts, Behaviours, Habits
- Identity
- Future
- Fears

What would it look like for you to put Jesus at the highest place in your life?

Is there something or someone in your life that has become an idol? An idol is anything or anyone that we give more love or allegiance to than Christ.

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## Practices

### **Take time to measure.**

Find a time and space without distraction this week. Give yourself a couple of hours. Sit down and weigh out the cost of discipleship. Talk to yourself (it's okay, it's biblical!). Talk to God. Determine whether or not you're ready to follow Jesus with everything.

### **Daily surrender.**

At the beginning of each day this week, take a moment and surrender your day to Christ. Pray a prayer of surrender: "your kingdom come, your will be done." Invite Jesus to lead you and be with you throughout the day. Try to be mindful of Christ throughout the day. Then, at the end of the day, take a moment to reflect on your day. Give thanks and praise to Christ for leading you and being with you. Consider if there is anything in your life that needs to be surrendered to Christ. Repent and believe. Receive his grace and presence.

### **Consider baptism.**

Have you publicly declared that you are a follower of Jesus by being baptized? Baptism is a public declaration of a personal decision to die to self and live for Christ. To learn more, contact us: [info@thecrosspointchurch.ca](mailto:info@thecrosspointchurch.ca).