

Commitment has its _____.

*...and follow me. ²⁴ If you try to hang on to your life, you will lose it.
But if you give up your life for my sake, you will save it.*

The Lord now chose seventy-two other disciples and sent them ahead in pairs to all the towns and places he planned to visit. ² These were his instructions to them: “The harvest is great, but the workers are few. So pray to the Lord who is in charge of the harvest; ask him to send more workers into his fields.
Luke 10:1, 2 (NLT)

Either way, Christ’s love controls us. Since we believe that Christ died for all, we also believe that we have all died to our old life. ¹⁵ He died for everyone so that those who receive his new life will no longer live for themselves. Instead, they will live for Christ, who died and was raised for them.
II Corinthians 5:14-15 (NLT)

This means that anyone who belongs to Christ has become a new person. The old life is gone; a new life has begun! ¹⁸ And all of this is a gift from God, who brought us back to himself through Christ. And God has given us this task of reconciling people to him. ¹⁹ For God was in Christ, reconciling the world to himself, no longer counting people’s sins against them. And he gave us this wonderful message of reconciliation. ²⁰ So we are Christ’s ambassadors; God is making his appeal through us. We speak for Christ when we plead, “Come back to God!” ²¹ For God made Christ, who never sinned, to be the offering for our sin, so that we could be made right with God through Christ. II Corinthians 5:17-21 (NLT)

Whoever says he lives in Christ [that is, whoever says he has accepted Him as God and Savior] ought [as a moral obligation] to walk and conduct himself just as He walked and conducted Himself.

I John 2:6 (AMP)

“Until I am committed, there is hesitancy, a chance to draw back. But the moment I definitely commit myself, then God moves also, and a whole stream of events erupt. All manner of unforeseen incidents, meetings, persons and material assistance which come my way begin to flow toward me – the moment I make a commitment.”

(John Maxwell)

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Pastor David Redmond

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*Quit living as if the purpose of life
Is to arrive safely at death.
Set God-sized goals. Pursue God-ordained passions.
Go after a dream that is destined to fail without
Divine intervention.
Keep asking questions. Keep making mistakes.
Keep seeking God.
Stop pointing out problems and become part of the solution.
Stop repeating the past and start creating the future.
Stop playing it safe and start taking risks.
Expand your horizons. Accumulate experiences.
Enjoy the journey.
Find every excuse you can to celebrate everything you can.
Live like today is the first day and last day of your life.
Don't let what's wrong with you
Keep you from worshiping what's right with God.
Burn sinful bridges. Blaze new trails.
Don't let fear dictate your decisions.
Take a flying leap of faith.
Quit holding out. Quit holding back.
Push all of your chips to the middle of the table.
It's time to ante up all of your faith.
It's time to go all in. It's time to go all out.*

Going “All In” requires commitment.

Then he said to the crowd, “If any of you wants to be my follower, you must give up your own way, take up your cross daily, and follow me. ²⁴ If you try to hang on to your life, you will lose it. But if you give up your life for my sake, you will save it. ²⁵ And what do you benefit if you gain the whole world but are yourself lost or destroyed? ²⁶ If anyone is ashamed of me and my message, the Son of Man will be ashamed of that person when he returns in his glory and in the glory of the Father and the holy angels.”
Luke 9:23-26 (NLT)

Commitment = To pledge oneself to a _____, no matter the _____.

Commitment has its _____.

“If any of you wants to be my follower, you must give up your own way...”

The price of a _____ life.

No discipline seems pleasant at the time, but painful. Later on, however, it produces a harvest of righteousness and peace for those who have been trained by it.
Hebrews 12:11 (NIV)

There are two pains in life: the pain of discipline and the pain of regret. We each choose which of the two we will suffer. Constant self-discipline is not easy. It is the price you pay for achievement. You basically have two choices in your life. You can choose the “easy” life, a life free from effort and self-discipline, or you can choose to pay the price for success. In the long run, however, the easy life leads to mediocrity. If you don’t do much, nothing much gets done. Your life gets nowhere. We all must consider that the price of self-discipline is pennies and the price of regret is a fortune.
(Jim Rohn)

Discipline yourself for the purpose of godliness. 1 Timothy 4:7b (NASB)

If you reject discipline, you only harm yourself; but if you listen to correction, you grow in understanding. Proverbs 15:32 (NLT)

The price of _____ focus.

Now when the time was almost come for Jesus to be received up [to heaven], He steadfastly and determinedly set His face to go to Jerusalem.
Luke 9:51 (AMP)

Commitment has its _____.

“...take up your cross daily...”

*As they were walking along, someone said to Jesus, “I will follow you wherever you go.” ⁵⁸ But Jesus replied, “Foxes have dens to live in, and birds have nests, but the Son of Man has no place even to lay his head.” ⁵⁹ He said to another person, “Come, follow me.” The man agreed, but he said, “Lord, **first** let me return home and bury my father.” ⁶⁰ But Jesus told him, “Let the spiritually dead bury their own dead! Your duty is to go and preach about the Kingdom of God.” ⁶¹ Another said, “Yes, Lord, I will follow you, but **first** let me say good-bye to my family.” ⁶² But Jesus told him, “Anyone who puts a hand to the plow and then looks back is not fit for the Kingdom of God.”*

Luke 9:57-62 (NLT)

Following Jesus always involves a _____.

My old self has been crucified with Christ. It is no longer I who live, but Christ lives in me. So I live in this earthly body by trusting in the Son of God, who loved me and gave himself for me.
Galatians 2:20 (NLT)

Those who belong to Christ Jesus have nailed the passions and desires of their sinful nature to his cross and crucified them there. ²⁵ Since we are living by the Spirit, let us follow the Spirit’s leading in every part of our lives.
Galatians 5:24-25 (NLT)

Following Jesus will require my

“_____.”

A religion that gives nothing, costs nothing, and suffers nothing, is worth nothing. (Martin Luther)