

FOREVER BROTHERS #5

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Thick (adj): having great depth...a strong substance or consistency ...heavily built...when applied to people meaning associated on close terms or intimate

THICK RELATIONSHIPS ARE GONNA COST YOU

Cost (verb): the price of something; something that is given up in order to achieve or get something

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." Luke 9:23

"And if you do not carry your own cross and follow me, you cannot be my disciple. But don't begin until you count the cost. For who would begin construction of a building without first calculating the cost to see if there is enough money to finish it? Otherwise, you might complete only the foundation before running out of money, and then everyone would laugh at YOU. Luke 14:27-29

TWO FACTS:

RELATIONSHIP WITH GOD DOESN'T _____
BUT IT DEMANDS _____.

RELATIONSHIP WITH GOD INVOLVES ME _____
NOT ASKING JESUS TO _____.

BIG IDEA:

STRONG _____ REQUIRE STRONG _____

"There is no greater love than to lay down one's life for one's friends."

John 15:13

THE COST = THE TEST OF THE TRUST

Jesus answered, "If you want to be perfect, go, sell your possessions and give to the poor, and you will have treasure in heaven. Then come, follow me." When the young man heard this, he went away sad, because he had great wealth. Matthew 19:21-22

_____ APPROACH

VS

_____ APPROACH

"WHOLEHEARTED" MEANS _____

"Trust in the LORD with all your heart and do not lean on your own understanding." Proverbs 3:5 NASB

THE MODEL: THREE COSTS OF RELATIONSHIP IN THE FAMILY OF GOD

1. _____ YOURSELF

MEANS = _____

Joshua told the people, "Consecrate yourselves, for tomorrow the LORD will do amazing things among you." Joshua 3:5

2. _____ YOURSELF

MEANS = _____

"I have been crucified with Christ and I no longer live, but Christ lives in me. The life I now live in the body, I live by faith in the Son of God, who loved me and gave himself for me." Galatians 2:20

3. _____ YOURSELF

MEANS = _____

***Then the LORD said to him, "What is that in your hand?"
"A staff," he replied.
The LORD said, "Throw it on the ground." Exodus 4:3-4***

BIG IDEA FOR FOREVER BROTHERS:

THE _____ ASSIGNS MEANING TO THE _____.

Why do you think Jesus asks for real commitment versus a "soft" commitment from us?

How are we like the Rich Young Ruler in our approach to spiritual friendships?

Which of three costs of relationship with God is hardest for you?

How do these three costs of relationship inform our connection with Forever Brothers?

Applying what you learned today ...what cost are you willing to pay to give meaning to your friendships in Christ?