

# **Count the Cost!**

Sunday July 2, 2023  
Celebrate Summer Series: Be Different

*“Delight yourself in the LORD, and he will give you the desires of your heart.  
Commit your way to the LORD; trust in him, and he will act.”  
Psalm 37:4–5 ESV*

*“For as he thinketh in his heart, so is he:  
Eat and drink, saith he to thee; but his heart is not with thee.”  
Proverbs 23:7 KJV*

## **Counting Cost Keeps Me Walking with God!**

### **Understand the \_\_\_\_\_ of My Heart**

*“Now Elisha came to Damascus. Ben-hadad the king of Syria was sick. And when it was told him, “The man of God has come here,””  
2 Kings 8:7 ESV*

*“And the LORD said to him, “Go, return on your way to the wilderness of Damascus. And when you arrive, you shall anoint Hazael to be king over Syria. And Jehu the son of Nimshi you shall anoint to be king over Israel, and Elisha the son of Shaphat of Abel-meholah you shall anoint to be prophet in your place.”  
1 Kings 19:15–16 ESV*

*(Also 2 Kings 8:8-10)*

*“And he fixed his gaze and stared at him, until he was embarrassed. And the man of God wept.”  
2 Kings 8:11 ESV*

*(Also 2 Kings 8:12)*

*“And Hazael said, “What is your servant, who is but a dog, that he should do this great thing?” Elisha answered, “The LORD has shown me that you are to be king over Syria.””  
2 Kings 8:13 ESV*

*“The heart is deceitful above all things, and desperately sick; who can understand it?”  
Jeremiah 17:9 ESV*

### **Understand that \_\_\_\_\_ Destroys My Life**

#### **King Jehoram—Judah**

*“In the fifth year of Joram the son of Ahab, king of Israel, when Jehoshaphat was king of Judah, Jehoram the son of Jehoshaphat, king of Judah, began to reign.”  
2 Kings 8:16 ESV*

*“And he walked in the way of the kings of Israel, as the house of Ahab had done, for the daughter of Ahab was his wife. And he did what was evil in the sight of the LORD.”  
2 Kings 8:18 ESV*

#### **King Joram—Israel**

*“Thus Jehu the son of Jehoshaphat the son of Nimshi conspired against Joram. (Now Joram with all Israel had been on guard at Ramoth-gilead against Hazael king of Syria,)”  
2 Kings 9:14 ESV*

*“Then take the flask of oil and pour it on his head and say, ‘Thus says the LORD, I anoint you king over Israel.’ Then open the door and flee; do not linger.”* 2 Kings 9:3 ESV

*“For the whole house of Ahab shall perish, and I will cut off from Ahab every male, bond or free, in Israel. And I will make the house of Ahab like the house of Jeroboam the son of Nebat, and like the house of Baasha the son of Ahijah. And the dogs shall eat Jezebel in the territory of Jezreel, and none shall bury her.” Then he opened the door and fled.”* 2 Kings 9:8–10 ESV

*(Also 2 Peter 3:9; Matthew 7:17-18)*

### **Marks of a Genuine Believer**

**-Attitude toward \_\_\_\_\_** - *“Everyone who makes a practice of sinning also practices lawlessness; sin is lawlessness.. No one who abides in him keeps on sinning; no one who keeps on sinning has either seen him or known him.”* 1 John 3:4,6 ESV

**-Attitude toward \_\_\_\_\_** - *“And by this we know that we have come to know him, if we keep his commandments. Whoever says “I know him” but does not keep his commandments is a liar, and the truth is not in him,”* 1 John 2:3–4 ESV

**-Attitude toward \_\_\_\_\_** - *“Whoever says he is in the light and hates his brother is still in darkness. Whoever loves his brother abides in the light, and in him there is no cause for stumbling.”* 1 John 2:9–10 ESV

**-Attitude toward \_\_\_\_\_** - *“Who is the liar but he who denies that Jesus is the Christ? This is the antichrist, he who denies the Father and the Son. No one who denies the Son has the Father. Whoever confesses the Son has the Father also.”* 1 John 2:22–23 ESV

**-Attitude toward the \_\_\_\_\_** - *“We are from God. Whoever knows God listens to us; whoever is not from God does not listen to us. By this we know the Spirit of truth and the spirit of error.”* 1 John 4:6 ESV

### **My Relationship with God is the \_\_\_\_\_**

*“Now Elisha had said to the woman whose son he had restored to life, “Arise, and depart with your household, and sojourn wherever you can, for the LORD has called for a famine, and it will come upon the land for seven years.””* 2 Kings 8:1 ESV

*(Also Psalm 146:9; James 1:27)*

*“Take care lest your heart be deceived, and you turn aside and serve other gods and worship them; then the anger of the LORD will be kindled against you, and he will shut up the heavens, so that there will be no rain, and the land will yield no fruit, and you will perish quickly off the good land that the LORD is giving you.”* Deuteronomy 11:16–17 ESV

*“Now the king was talking with Gehazi the servant of the man of God, saying, “Tell me all the great things that Elisha has done.” And while he was telling the king how Elisha had restored the dead to life, behold, the woman whose son he had restored to life appealed to the king for her house and her land. And Gehazi said, “My lord, O king, here is the woman, and here is her son whom Elisha restored to life.””* 2 Kings 8:4–5 ESV

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