



# The Mission Trail

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"LIFT UP YOUR EYES, AND LOOK ON THE FIELDS; FOR THEY ARE WHITE ALREADY TO HARVEST." — JOHN 4:35

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## Counting the Cost

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. . . and a cheerful greeting to each and every one who is tuned to THE MISSION TRAIL broadcast of Guthrie, Oklahoma. We are happy to be coming your way once again. We hope that each of you will make the year of 1969 a good year for the Lord, making each day count for him. May we dedicate our lives afresh to the task which is before us and let us be faithful to the Lord and spread his word through the doors which are open, bringing salvation to those who are lost. I hope that our decision to live for God will not be like the new year's resolutions of many folks. Sometimes their resolutions only last a few days. And that brings me to this scripture in Luke 14 beginning with verse 25,

"And there went great multitudes with him: and he turned, and said unto them, If any man come to me, and hate not his father, and mother, and wife, and children, and brethren, and sisters, yea, and his own life also, he cannot be my disciple. And whosoever doth not bear his cross, and come after me, cannot be my disciple. For which of you, intending to build a tower, sitteth not down first, and counteth the cost, whether he have sufficient to finish it? Lest haply, after he hath laid the foundation, and is not able to finish it, all that behold it begin to mock him, Saying, This man began to build, and was not able to finish. Or what king, going to make war against another king, sitteth not down first, and consulteth whether he be able with ten thousand to meet him that cometh against him with twenty thousand?"

Now, did you notice in this scripture that there were great multitudes with Jesus when he told them this. He

made it plain that for one to follow Christ meant a giving up of everything that would stand in his way. Then he compared this to one who was building a tower and he mentioned how one should first sit down and count the cost before he starts to build. Otherwise he might make a good showing and make a good start, and be unable to finish that which he had begun. This is certainly true of altogether too many people who begin to serve Christ today. As long as the road is easy and the going is smooth and there is no opposition it is easy to walk the road of least resistance. But it is going to cost you something if you serve Christ. You may as well know that now. Now I do not say these things to discourage one from becoming a saint of God, because that is exactly what I want you to do, is to become a child of God and remain one as long as you live. But you should be well informed and know beforehand what to expect. There is going to be opposition, there is going to be trials and there is going

