

START

FATHER'S DAY - 2017

START TALKING. WITH AN ICEBREAKER QUESTION:

- You can find some on page 6 [here](#).
- What were your feelings, as best as you can remember, about the first day of 5th grade? (i.e. start)

START THINKING. ASK THE QUESTIONS THAT WILL GET YOUR GROUP THINKING.

- What do most people think of when told to, "count the cost?"
- What have you seen people start, but not finish?
- The context of Jesus' words have to do with following Him. How should someone "count the cost of following Jesus?"

Luke 14:27-30 (NIV)

And anyone who does not carry his cross and follow me cannot be my disciple.

*"Suppose one of you wants to build a tower. Will he not first sit down and estimate the cost to see if he has enough money to complete it? For if he lays the foundation and is not able to finish it, everyone who sees it will **ridicule** him, saying, 'This fellow began to build and was not able to finish.'"*

START SHARING. CHOOSE THE QUESTIONS THAT WILL CREATE OPENNESS.

- Tell of a time you didn't count the cost and started anyways.
- What is so valuable that you can't wait anymore to start building it?
- "No one starts with a harvest, but a seed." What harvest are you now reaping because of a seed sown? How long did that seed take to grow to harvest?
- Mark listed 3 fears that keep us from starting: fear of failure, fear of looking foolish, and fear of the fare. Which of these paralyzes you the most often?
- What do you wish you would have started in your 20's? Have you since? If not, why?
- What is something you started 5+ years ago that you are enjoying the benefits of now?
- Mark mentioned it takes approximately 20 hours to read the New Testament. What "project" have you spent 20 hours on over the last 2 months you wish you could have redirected that time?

START PRAYING. BE BOLD, AND PRAY WITH POWER.

- God, give me courage to start what I am afraid of. May I be challenged by Jesus' example, when I am afraid of looking foolish. Amen.

START DOING. COMMIT TO A STEP AND LIVE IT OUT THIS WEEK.

- If you see someone "just starting out" in anything, give them a big dose of encouragement!