

The Cost of Following Christ Diagram Explained

This diagram has two levels of purpose. It is designed first to help the student evaluate his priorities in life and to determine whether Christ is central to his life. For those who have Christ at the center of their lives, this exercise will serve the purpose of evaluating their stewardship of time in an effort to realign and sharpen their priorities in a manner that exalts and pleases Christ, and seeing to it that all areas of life are subjected to Christ's rule in increasingly greater measure.

1) Page 1 - Before repentance from sin and faith toward Christ

- a) Beginning with the circle on the left side of the page, lead the students to discover in what order a person who has not yet experienced salvation in Christ has self, God, and others prioritized. Have them write these answers at the end of each line as displayed on the diagram key.
- b) Moving to the other side of the page, have the students take the central answer from the circle on the left side of the page and write it again, this time in the central circle of the illustration on the right side of the page.
- c) Then have the students list the various categories of priorities in their lives, which may include religious practice, inside the circles attached to the central circle.
- d) Briefly explain how the priorities of an unsaved person will ultimately revolve around his own desires and pleasures.

2) Page 2 - After repentance from sin and faith toward Christ

- a) Beginning with the circle on the left side of the page, lead the students to discover in what order a person who has experienced salvation in Christ has self, God, and others prioritized. Have them write these answers at the end of each line as displayed on the diagram key.
- b) Moving to the other side of the page, have the students take the central answer from the circle on the left side of the page and write it again, this time in the central circle of the illustration on the right side of the page.
- c) Then have the students list the same categories of priorities in their lives inside the circles attached to the central circle.
- d) Briefly explain how the priorities of a saved person will ultimately revolve around the desires and pleasures of God.