

Sunday, 15 November 2009 at CiB
Creation Care...

We have a big campus and lots of resources and energy needs...

Counting the Cost!

Where we're starting in scripture... Luke 14:25-35

Church in Bethesda

followers of Christ, good neighbors in the world

5033 Wilson Lane, Bethesda, MD 20814

301.654.4159, www.churchinbethesda.org



1) Understand what is being asked of us (25-26)

- † Follow Christ even if no one else does
- † Possible Lose of respect – family and friends – be ok with it
- † Lose of selfishness – truly lose one's identity in Christ
- † Having the mind of Christ – caring about the things that God cares for
- † God called creation good

2) Understand the true cost (28-32)

- † Look at the long view of following Christ, not just the here and now, but what it may cost down the road
- † Consider the true cost: money, resources, physical and emotional impact on self and community
- † Be willing to get creative
- † No Giving up

3) Follow with all that we have

- † After considering the cost and deciding to follow the teaching of Christ, don't turn back, give it all you have

Have you ever set out to accomplish a project just to realize half way through that it was bigger than your wallet? Your time? Your energy?

So, what then? Re-counting, Re-focusing, and Re-commitment!

What are we doing here at CIB to count the cost?

- † Energy Audit, November 21st
- † Rainscape Projects
 - www.montgomerycountymd.gov/Content/DEP/Rainscapes/home.html
 - Rain barrels
 - Tree replacement
 - Why? Serving own campus and the community
- † Programmable Thermostats
- † Replacing HVAC Systems, ex: *Chapel this year!*
- † Looking Forward with Sanctuary Cooling & Heat

So, as we count the cost, what are we doing with our " gleanings" and "edges" of our church's field?

- † 5004 Del Ray
- † Space for support groups to meet
 - Free or Discounted
- † Bethesda Cares Program
 - Homeless Lunch Program
- † Helping people in need as needs arise

WHAT GLEANINGS ARE FOUND IN YOUR LIFE?



Weekly Grace...

As a follow-up to last week's Weekly Grace, let's continue to ask the question of what we're doing to honor God's creation with our lives?

Possible ways that we can help honor God's creation:

- Spare change for a charity that helps restore people/creation
- U.S. Department of Energy: www.energysavers.gov
- Check out the document on the CiB website about the different opportunities to directly engage Creation Care!
- Take time that would be used on self to...
 - Volunteer in the community
 - Pick up trash
 - Find a local farmers market
 - Rainscape your own yard
 - Stop and talk to someone on the street that you would usually pass by
- Other...