

# Counting the Cost Notes

Acts 19:21-41

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**Main Point:** It's costly to follow Christ, but the cost is worth it.

## Early Church

1. Living for Christ was not \_\_\_\_\_ in the early church.
2. The first Christians counted the \_\_\_\_\_ and were sold-out to Christ.
3. In Matthew 16:24-25, Jesus spelled out the cost of \_\_\_\_\_ Him

## The Cost of our Plans (Acts 19:21-22)

1. Paul's plan was to travel back to "Macedonia and Achaia and go to Jerusalem."
2. Paul wanted to pick up a generous \_\_\_\_\_ these churches collected for the poorer believers in Jerusalem (1 Corinthians 16:1-4).
3. After delivering this offering, Paul's plans were to go to \_\_\_\_\_.
4. While Paul made plans to get to Rome, it didn't happen when he wanted it to, nor did it happen the \_\_\_\_\_ he intended.
5. God establishes our steps (Proverbs 16:9).
6. God works through people and our problems to accomplish His \_\_\_\_\_.
7. Opportunity often arrives with \_\_\_\_\_.

## The Cost of our Popularity (Acts 19:23).

1. "The Way" was one name for Christianity and a reference to Jesus being the \_\_\_\_\_ way in John 14:6.
2. Paul referenced this disturbance in 2 Corinthians 1:8.
3. The devil causes disturbances to distract unbelievers and \_\_\_\_\_ believers. That's why we must put on the armor of God daily.
4. Demetrius was alarmed and \_\_\_\_\_ up the craftsmen against Paul.
  - \_\_\_\_\_ (vs. 25) – they were ruining their business.
  - \_\_\_\_\_ (vs. 26)
  - \_\_\_\_\_ (vs. 27) – If people stopped worshipping Artemis, the city of Ephesus would lose its luster and reputation among other cities.

## The Cost of Persecution

1. Conflict always arises when the gospel is faithfully \_\_\_\_\_ (vs. 28).
2. These workers were emotionally "enraged" meaning they were filled with "impetuous indignation leading to \_\_\_\_\_."

- The word for “crying out” refers to the \_\_\_\_\_ cry of a raven.
  - After getting riled up, the crowd moved into \_\_\_\_\_ mode (Acts 19:29-32).
  - The word “rushed” means a raging flood.
3. Paul tried to get into the theater but the disciples wouldn’t let him because they knew he would be \_\_\_\_\_.
    - The Asiarchs were distinguished \_\_\_\_\_ in Ephesus and friends of Paul.
    - Paul had the ability to build bridges with unbelievers from all classes whether \_\_\_\_\_ people or high-ranking pagan officials.
  4. Because many considered Christianity to be a sect of Judaism, the Jews elected Alexander to argue Christians were on their own and were not \_\_\_\_\_ the Jews.
    - The Jews didn’t want to be \_\_\_\_\_ for the economic downturn and the dishonoring of Artemis.
  5. The town clerk was able to quiet the crowd.
    - The town clerk was like the city \_\_\_\_\_ or mayor.
    - He told them if they had issues with the Christians to use the \_\_\_\_\_ system.

### **Praying for the Persecuted**

1. Statistics
  - Since Jesus laid down His life, \_\_\_\_\_ million Christians have become martyrs.
  - Right now, 200 million people face persecution for believing in Jesus and 60% of those people are \_\_\_\_\_.
  - In the last year, 4,761 Christians were killed for their faith.
2. Four needs those being persecuted would like us to pray for.
  - Pray for their \_\_\_\_\_ faith.
  - Pray for Christian \_\_\_\_\_.
  - Pray they will have \_\_\_\_\_ to God’s Word.
  - Pray for \_\_\_\_\_ and contentment.
3. Specific requests prepared by Voice of the Martyrs.
  - Christians in Iran risk their freedom and lives to place God’s Word in the hands of those who do not know Jesus.
  - Gospel workers on the front lines of ministry in Central Asia share the gospel with everyone they meet – even the secret police.
  - Ethiopian Christians baptize former Somali Muslims in the backyard of a church building that was once a brothel.