



## [Luke 14:26-27](#)

(26) "If anyone comes to Me and does not hate his father and mother, wife and children, brothers and sisters, yes, and his own life also, he cannot be My disciple.

(27) And whoever does not bear his cross and come after Me cannot be My disciple.

*New King James Version*

Before baptizing anybody, the ministry almost invariably urges the person to "count the cost" of giving his life to [Christ](#). While counseling the candidate, the minister expounds [Luke 14:26-27](#).

The cross we bear may be any potentially long-lasting trial that persistently affects our liberty to submit to [God](#). However, very often at the base of this chronic resistance to submission is our desperately wicked heart with its deeply engrained baggage of proud, self-centered, anti-God habits of thinking and conduct. Despite our being baptized and having [God's Spirit](#), [pride](#) remains a fellow traveler, stirring resistance to the knowledge of God. Satan's pride separated him from the Creator, and if permitted, it has the power to separate us from Him as well.

Without really stopping to evaluate why, we are proud about what God describes as nothingness, vanity, a vapor. Pride resists the sovereign Almighty God and greatly hinders us from fulfilling our responsibility to submit.

— John W. Ritenbaugh

**To learn more, see:**

[Living By Faith and Human Pride](#)

**Related Topics:**

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[Counting the Cost](#)

[Pride](#)

[Resisting God](#)

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