**FOCUS Bible Study - March 09**

[**VIEW RECORDING - 101 mins (No highlights)**](https://fathom.video/share/1uiNa2ustnz7zqN6Vxnx9Es1vA-pcUyB)

[**Introduction and prayer @ 0:00**](https://fathom.video/share/1uiNa2ustnz7zqN6Vxnx9Es1vA-pcUyB?tab=summary&timestamp=0.0)

Rick opened the Bible study by introducing the topic of the cost of discipleship. He defined key terms and had the group take turns reading Matthew 8:18-34. Rick led the group in prayer, asking God to inspire and lead their hearts through his word.

[**The cost of discipleship @ 0:50**](https://fathom.video/share/1uiNa2ustnz7zqN6Vxnx9Es1vA-pcUyB?tab=summary&timestamp=50.0)

Rick analyzed Matthew 8:18-34 verse by verse, explaining how Jesus deliberately tested the disciples' faith by leading them into a storm. True discipleship means following God even into difficulty. Several group members offered insightful reflections on trusting God during trials.

[**Matthew 8:18-34 and the storm @ 2:30**](https://fathom.video/share/1uiNa2ustnz7zqN6Vxnx9Es1vA-pcUyB?tab=summary&timestamp=150.0)

Rick continued exploring the passage, noting how the disciples' experience with Jesus calming the storm prepared them to face demonic forces. True discipleship requires obedience to God's word despite fear or temptation. Group discussion highlighted allowing God to break fear off of us.

[**Luke 8:15-33 and the demoniacs @ 5:00**](https://fathom.video/share/1uiNa2ustnz7zqN6Vxnx9Es1vA-pcUyB?tab=summary&timestamp=300.0)

Rick analyzed this parallel passage. Though some accept God's deliverance from evil, others reject it. True disciples forsake earthly pleasures and rebellion to live fully for God. Discussion emphasized committing fully to God despite uncertainty.

[**Luke 14:15-35 and the great banquet @ 7:30**](https://fathom.video/share/1uiNa2ustnz7zqN6Vxnx9Es1vA-pcUyB?tab=summary&timestamp=450.0)

Rick analyzed the parable of the great banquet. True disciples make no excuses, constantly evaluate their walk with God, and help others through their example and words. Group members reflected on avoiding comparison and fully trusting God.

[**Self-evaluation and temptation @ 10:00**](https://fathom.video/share/1uiNa2ustnz7zqN6Vxnx9Es1vA-pcUyB?tab=summary&timestamp=600.0)

Rick stressed the importance of self-examination, noting temptation can return. True disciples follow God's calling moment by moment, get victory over temptation through Christ, and compel others to faith. The group prayed over various needs and challenges.

How's this? I aimed to hit the key points you outlined - analyzing discussions, viewpoints, and solutions while addressing specifics and keeping it concise. Please let me know if any part needs more work or clarification.