



CHURCH

LOVE GOD, LOVE PEOPLE

SERMON STUDY GUIDE

"Matthew 10:24-42" on September 27th

CONNECT

How did last week's passage we read/discussed from Matthew 10:1-23 affect your week?

DISCOVER: MATTHEW 10:24-42

What did the passage say or did you take away from the sermon this week?

How does this passage/did this sermon point us to Jesus or teach us about Jesus?

In today's passage, Jesus gives instructions for the future to His disciples as He is sending them out; He is preparing them for the persecution that will surely come as followers of Him. What the world did to Jesus it would surely do to His followers; that applies to us today in our here and now as well!

MATTHEW 10:24-31 Whatever Jesus was called, however He was treated, His disciples should expect the same, but God cares so much for His children, He will provide for and protect them.

- Jesus speaks THREE times about NOT being afraid of what is ahead. Identify those three "Do not be afraid's" from the passage and describe how Jesus directs us to deal with those fears – His examples, His encouragement, etc.
- We are so valuable to God that He sent His only Son to die for us and gave us the Holy Spirit which can't be taken from us. How does this help shape your perspective on the importance of repentance and on preparing for possible persecution in the future?
- Describe conditions in our culture right now that seem to be pointing toward persecution of followers of Jesus. Share examples you may have heard of. How will you pray for these uncertain times?

MATTHEW 10:32-33 God loves us immeasurably, but we must CHOOSE to receive that love, to be with Him. If we choose NOT to follow Him, He will give us over to our desires.

- Are you ready to acknowledge Him wherever you are? In the workplace, in the gym, in a social situation?
- Have there been situations in which you have been reluctant or afraid to identify with Christ openly? What might change if you asked God to help you pray more purposefully and consistently to be bold in acknowledging Him?
- Have you or anyone you know experienced persecution because they stood firm for Jesus, acknowledging Him as Savior and Lord? Describe that and consider how verses 28-32 could encourage you or someone in that situation.

MATTHEW 10:34-39 God gives us a great capacity to love, but He wants us to love HIM more than anyone or anything we are passionate about. Our Christian commitment may separate us from friends and family, but Christ was obedient to God at any cost to secure the salvation of His people – how can we do any less?

- What does it mean to you to 'take up your cross'? What does that look like in your life?
- Is your 'house' built on things you love or is it built on the One who created love?
- Are the things you love creating self-sufficiency so you depend less on God?

MATTHEW 10:40-42 We are Christ's ambassadors, and our job is to represent King Jesus, to acknowledge Him as the Christ, the Son of the Living God, by loving people around us. Jason shared that fear doesn't hold us when we are surrendered to the One who has conquered death.

- Our love for God can be observed and measured by how we serve others, both materially and spiritually. How would you describe your awareness and involvement in serving peoples' material needs?
- How about your ability to see beyond peoples' material needs to their genuine inner needs?
- Complete this phrase: My hope is built on _____.
- It is costly but rewarding to be a disciple of Christ. ARE you Jesus' disciple? Is there anything you fear or have not surrendered to Him?