



**Sermon Discussion Questions - July 3 & 5, 2026**  
**Matthew Part 3: Week 9**  
**Matthew 10:16-33**

**Ice Breaker:** *As Christians, we experience all kinds of pressure to conform to the world's way of thinking.*

- **Q1: Where do you notice that kind of pressure showing up in the world right now?**

*Read Matthew 10:16-33 together. This passage reminds us that the enemy applies real pressure to stay silent, blend in, or back away from our faith.*

- **Q2: What situations make it hardest for you to openly follow Jesus or talk about your faith?**
- **Q3: In your current season of life, where do you personally feel pressure to compromise or stay quiet about your beliefs?**

*Jesus promises that when we experience persecution, the Holy Spirit will give us the words to say.*

- **Q4: Can you think of a time when you were in a tough situation because of your faith, and you felt like God helped you respond in the moment?**

*Jesus also warns that our faith may cause us to be hated for His name's sake.*

- **Q5: Has your relationship with Jesus ever negatively affected how others see you or impacted a friendship or relationship? What happened?**

*We can have hope in the face of persecution knowing that Jesus faced suffering, too!*

- **Q6: What kinds of fears tend to show up for you when you feel pressure to conform or hide your faith?**
- **Q7: How does remembering Jesus's suffering help put the pressure and persecution you experience in perspective?**

*The fear of God displaces the fear of man—we fear people too much because we don't fear God enough!*

- **Q8: Where do you feel the pull to fear people more than you fear God right now?**
- **Q9: How might the Holy Spirit be inviting you to follow Jesus more boldly or faithfully in light of this week's message?**

*Take a few minutes to encourage each other, and spend some time in prayer together!*