

# First Responders

Dispatched by the Holy Spirit



## Week 5 - Growth Through Sacrifice a Foster Family Story- Nikki Rodolph

**Responding to Jesus encourages us to prepare, know, and use our gifts for His Kingdom**

*'As each has received a gift, use it to serve one another, as good stewards of God's varied grace: whoever speaks, as one who speaks oracles of God; whoever serves, as one who serves by the strength that God supplies—in order that in everything God may be glorified through Jesus Christ. To him belong glory and dominion forever and ever. Amen.'* **1 Peter 4:10-11**

**Responding to Jesus is simple, but not always easy.**

*'And one of the scribes came up and heard them disputing with one another, and seeing that he answered them well, asked him, 'Which commandment is the most important of all?' Jesus answered, 'The most important is, 'Hear, O Israel: The Lord our God, the Lord is one. And you shall love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your mind and with all your strength.' The second is this: 'You shall love your neighbor as yourself.' There is no other commandment greater than these.'* **Mark 12:28-31**

**Responding to Jesus brings sacrifice & awareness of suffering, so count the cost and be ready.**

*"Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, the Father of mercies and God of all comfort, who comforts us in all our affliction, so that we may be able to comfort those who are in any affliction, with the comfort with which we ourselves are comforted by God. For as we share abundantly in Christ's sufferings, so through Christ we share abundantly in comfort too. If we are afflicted, it is for your comfort and salvation; and if we are comforted, it is for your comfort, which you experience when you patiently endure the same sufferings that we suffer."* **2 Corinthians 1:3-6**

*"For God is pleased when, conscious of his will, you patiently endure unjust treatment. Of course, you get no credit for being patient if you are beaten for doing wrong. But if you suffer for doing good and endure it patiently, God is pleased with you.*

*For God called you to do good, even if it means suffering, just as Christ suffered for you. He is your example, and you must follow in his steps."* **1 Peter 2:19-21**

Discussion Questions:

1. What gifts do you have that you can steward well when responding to Jesus and his dispatch?
2. Because God first loved you, who can you identify to love more genuinely?
3. Has the cost of suffering or sacrifice kept you from saying yes when you are dispatched by God?