

Sermon-Based Discussion Guide

Date 7/30/23 Aaron Brown

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BIBLE PASSAGE - Matthew 10:1-39

1 "And he called to him his twelve disciples and gave them authority over unclean spirits, to cast them out, and to heal every disease and every affliction. *2* The names of the twelve apostles are these: first, Simon, who is called Peter, and Andrew his brother; James the son of Zebedee, and John his brother; *3* Philip and Bartholomew; Thomas and Matthew the tax collector; James the son of Alphaeus, and Thaddaeus;^[a] *4* Simon the Zealot,^[b] and Judas Iscariot, who betrayed him.

5 These twelve Jesus sent out, instructing them, "Go nowhere among the Gentiles and enter no town of the Samaritans, *6* but go rather to the lost sheep of the house of Israel. *7* And proclaim as you go, saying, 'The kingdom of heaven is at hand.'^[c] *8* Heal the sick, raise the dead, cleanse lepers,^[d] cast out demons. You received without paying; give without pay. *9* Acquire no gold or silver or copper for your belts, *10* no bag for your journey, or two tunics^[e] or sandals or a staff, for the laborer deserves his food. *11* And whatever town or village you enter, find out who is worthy in it and stay there until you depart. *12* As you enter the house, greet it. *13* And if the house is worthy, let your peace come upon it, but if it is not worthy, let your peace return to you. *14* And if anyone will not receive you or listen to your words, shake off the dust from your feet when you leave that house or town. *15* Truly, I say to you, it will be more bearable on the day of judgment for the land of Sodom and Gomorrah than for that town. *16* "Behold, I am sending you out as sheep in the midst of wolves, so be wise as serpents and innocent as doves...

38 And whoever does not take his cross and follow me is not worthy of me. *39* Whoever finds his life will lose it, and whoever loses his life for my sake will find it.

Other Passages: Mark 6:12-13, 2 Cor. 12:9, 1 Cor. 1:27, Is. 53:6, Mt. 7:6, Mt. 28:16-20, Mt. 4:1, Rom. 8:29, Mark 6:12-13

Connect:

Get to know each other. Connect, warm up to each other, and take time to fellowship.

Care:

Carry each other's burdens. Share life's challenges and practice Soul Care. Pray together.

Challenge:

Dive into God's Word. Use these discussion questions. Learn from each other's insight.

1. Have you been trying to follow Jesus while sitting on the sidelines? In what ways has He called you to step onto the field and start playing?
2. How do you respond when you experience difficulty/hardship as a Christian? Do you expect it? Do you seek to avoid it?
3. Read Mark 7-13, 30-31. Why do you think Jesus wanted the disciples to be in quiet after the ministry they experienced. What might we learn from this invitation of Jesus?
4. What nudge has God given you that feels a little scary? Where do you need to step out in faith and trust that He goes with you?
5. Is there something as a group you can adjust so you better encourage each other of God's gameplan, and plan for the future?

Clarify:

Does anyone need clarity on something? Are there any big God questions you are wrestling with?

Celebrate:

Celebrate life's successes and God's provision. Worship God's presence. Time to brag about God.

KEY TAKEAWAYS