

Living Connections Bible Study



What to Expect

Text: Matthew 10:16-42

Prayer

Icebreaker: If you were being interviewed as an ambassador to be sent on an important mission what questions might you want to ask before accepting your assignment?

1. What does Jesus tell us about the environment into which He sends us to fulfill our mission? Verse 16a; John 16:33

2. What does Jesus mean by the simile/metaphor: *Therefore be wise as serpents and harmless as doves?* Verse 16b

3. What warning does Jesus give to His Apostles and by extension to all who follow and serve Him?

Verses 17-18 _____

Verses 21-22a _____

2 Timothy 3:12 _____

4. What promise does Jesus give us for when we are asked to testify for our faith?
Verses 19-20

5. What did Jesus mean when he said *He endures to the end will be saved*? Is our salvation dependent on our perseverance? Verse 22; John 10:27-29

6. What did Jesus mean when He said to the Apostles, *You will not have gone through the cities of Israel before the Son of Man comes*? Verses 5-7, 22; Zechariah 9:9

7. How does persecution help to spread the gospel? Verse 23; Acts 8:4

8. What should be our goal as disciples of Christ, and what reaction may this cause from those who despise Jesus? Verses 24-26 ; John 15:20

9. What does Jesus want us to do with the truths He is teaching us? Verse 27

10. Explain the truth: *A person who fears God has no one else to fear.* Verse 28, Proverbs 29:25; Luke 12:4-5

11. What assurance does Jesus give to us as we face persecution and trials in our service for Him? Verses 29-31

12. How important is our willingness to confess our allegiance to Jesus Christ? And what is the first step of obedience after you place your faith in Him for salvation? Verses 32-33; Matthew 28:19

13. What may be the cost of taking your stand for Christ if you are from a non-Christian family? Verses 34-37

14. What does Jesus mean in verses 38-39?

15. What promise does Jesus make concerning those who show hospitality and support those in Christian service? 40-41

16. What promise does Jesus make to every disciple for even the most simple and menial of things we might do for others? Verse 42

Think about it this week:

An army sergeant told his men one evening as they set up camp: *Men, don't drive your tent stakes too deep. We are leaving in the morning.*

How deep are my tent stakes? Will it take an economic collapse, trouble and persecution to free us from our possessions and toys to get us moving for God?

In the early days of the church...baptism was a declaration that the believer was definitely identifying himself with that group of people who were called Christians and were despised and hated. To be a Christian meant something. To identify yourself with those who were called Christians meant persecution, maybe death; it meant being ostracized from your family, shunned by friends. And the one act which was the final declaration of this identification was BAPTISM. As long as a man gathered with Christians, he was tolerated, but when once he submitted to baptism, he declared to all the world, I BELONG TO THIS DESPISED GROUP, and immediately he was persecuted, hated, and despised. In baptism, therefore, the believer entered into the fellowship of the sufferings of Christ. A person might be a believer and keep it strictly a secret and thus avoid unpleasantness and suffering, but once he submitted to public baptism he had burned his bridges behind him.

~ Dr. M.R. DeHaan RBC Pamphlet, Water Baptism, p. 27