



The background of the image shows the dark silhouettes of Gothic-style buildings, including a prominent spire on the right and various rooflines and windows on the left, set against a deep blue twilight sky.

FEAR

# A Focus on *FEAR*

## Matthew 10

Jesus tells His disciples...

Week One: **WHAT TO DO**

Week Two: **WHAT TO EXPECT**

Week Three: **WHAT TO THINK**

# A Focus on ***FEAR***

## Matthew 10

Jesus tells His disciples...

**WHAT TO EXPECT**

# Matthew 10

16 Behold, I am sending you out like sheep among wolves; therefore be as shrewd as snakes and as innocent as doves.

17 But beware of men; for they will hand you over to their councils and flog you in their synagogues.

18 On My account, you will be brought before governors and kings as witnesses to them and to the Gentiles.

# Matthew 10

19 But when they hand you over,  
do not worry about how to respond or  
what to say.

In that hour you will be given what to say.

20 For it will not be you speaking, but the  
Spirit of your Father speaking through  
you.

# Matthew 10

21 Brother will betray brother to death,  
and a father his child;  
children will rise against their parents and  
have them put to death.

22 You will be hated by everyone because  
of My name,  
but the one who perseveres to the end will  
be saved.

# Matthew 10

23 When they persecute you in one town, flee to the next.

Truly I tell you, you will not reach all the towns of Israel before the Son of Man comes.

24 A disciple is not above his teacher, nor a servant above his master.

25 It is enough for a disciple to be like his teacher, and a servant like his master.

If the head of the house has been called Beelzebul, how much more the members of his household!



## Matthew 10

16 Behold, I am sending you out like sheep  
among wolves;  
therefore be as shrewd as snakes and as  
innocent as doves.

# Philippians 2

14 Do everything without  
complaining or arguing,

15 so that you may be blameless and  
**pure**, children of God without fault  
in a crooked and perverse  
generation,  
in which you shine as lights in the  
world

## Matthew 10

16 Behold, I am sending you out like sheep  
among wolves;  
therefore be as shrewd as snakes and as  
innocent as doves.

# Matthew 10

17 But beware of men; for they will hand you over to their councils and flog you in their synagogues.

18 On My account, you will be brought before governors and kings as witnesses to them and to the Gentiles.

## 2 Timothy 3

10 You, however, have observed my teaching, my conduct, my purpose, my faith, my patience, my love, my perseverance, 11 my persecutions, and the sufferings that came upon me in Antioch, Iconium, and Lystra.

What persecutions I endured!

Yet the Lord rescued me from all of them.

12 Indeed, **all who desire to live godly lives in Christ Jesus will be persecuted,**

13 while evil men and imposters go from bad to worse, deceiving and being deceived.

# Matthew 10

17 But beware of men; for they will hand you over to their councils and flog you in their synagogues.

18 On My account, you will be brought before governors and kings as witnesses to them and to the Gentiles.



# Revelation 2

8 To the angel of the church in Smyrna write:

10 Do not fear what you are about to suffer.

Look, the devil is about to throw some of you into prison to test you, and you will suffer tribulation for ten days.

Be faithful even unto death, and I will give you the crown of life.

## Matthew 10

17 But beware of men; for they will hand you over to their councils and flog you in their synagogues.

18 On My account, you will be brought before governors and kings as witnesses to them and to the Gentiles.

19 But when they hand you over, do not worry about how to respond or what to say.

In that hour you will be given what to say.

20 For it will not be you speaking, but the Spirit of your Father speaking through you.



# Matthew 15

12 Then the disciples came to Him and said, “Are You aware that the Pharisees were offended when they heard this?”

13 But Jesus replied, “Every plant that My heavenly Father has not planted will be pulled up by its roots.

14 Disregard them!

They are blind guides.

If a blind man leads a blind man, both will fall into a pit.”

## Matthew 10

21 Brother will betray brother to death,  
and a father his child;  
children will rise against their parents and  
have them put to death.

22 You will be hated by everyone because of  
My name, but the one who perseveres to the  
end will be saved.

# Deuteronomy 13

6 If your very own brother, or your son or daughter, or the wife you embrace, or your closest friend secretly entices you, saying,

“Let us go and worship other gods” (which neither you nor your fathers have known,

7 the gods of the peoples around you, whether near or far, whether from one end of the earth or the other),

8 you must not yield to him or listen to him. Show him no pity, and do not spare him or shield him.

# Deuteronomy 13

9 Instead, you must surely kill him.

Your hand must be the first against him to put him to death, and then the hands of all the people.

10 Stone him to death for trying to turn you away from the LORD your God, who brought you out of the land of Egypt, out of the house of slavery.

11 Then all Israel will hear and be afraid, and will never again do such a wicked thing among you.



## Matthew 10

21 Brother will betray brother to death,  
and a father his child;  
children will rise against their parents and  
have them put to death.

22 You will be hated by everyone because of  
My name, but the one who perseveres to the  
end will be saved.

# Matthew 10

23 When they persecute you in one town, flee to the next.

Truly I tell you, you will not reach all the towns of Israel before the Son of Man comes.

## Matthew 10

24 A disciple is not above his teacher, nor a servant above his master.

25 It is enough for a disciple to be like his teacher, and a servant like his master.

If the head of the house has been called Beelzebul, how much more the members of his household!

## John 15

18 If the world hates you, understand that it hated Me first.

19 If you were of the world, it would love you as its own.

Instead, the world hates you, because you are not of the world, but I have chosen you out of the world.

20 Remember the word that I spoke to you: 'No servant is greater than his master.'

If they persecuted Me, they will persecute you as well; if they kept My word, they will keep yours as well.

21 But they will treat you like this because of My name, since they do not know the One who sent Me.



# A Focus on ***FEAR***

Why?

Why did Jesus teach this section?

Why would He think it was necessary for the disciples to know all these negative things are coming?

What could they gain from knowing this?

How does this strengthen His disciples?

# How were Jesus' disciples strengthened from His teaching in vs. 16-25?

1. They knew going in what the true cost of following Jesus would be.

The risk of the mission also shows the great importance of the mission;  
and the extreme value of the **Mission-Giver**.  
Any false disciples are weeded out.

## Luke 14

25 Large crowds were now traveling with Jesus, and He turned and said to them,

26 “If anyone comes to Me and does not hate his father and mother and wife and children and brothers and sisters—

yes, even his own life—he cannot be My disciple.

27 And whoever does not carry his cross and follow Me cannot be My disciple.

## Luke 14

28 Which of you, wishing to build a tower, does not **first** sit down and count the cost to see if he has the resources to complete it?

29 Otherwise, if he lays the foundation and is unable to finish the work, everyone who sees it will ridicule him,

30 saying, 'This man could not finish what he started to build.'

# Luke 14

31 Or what king on his way to war with another king will not **first** sit down and consider whether he can engage with ten thousand men the one coming against him with twenty thousand?

32 And if he is unable, he will send a delegation while the other king is still far off, to ask for terms of peace.

33 In the same way, any one of you who does not give up everything he has cannot be My disciple.



# How were Jesus' disciples strengthened from His teaching in vs. 16-25?

1. They knew going in what the true cost of following Jesus would be.

The risk of the mission also shows the great importance of the mission;  
and the extreme value of the **Mission-Giver**.  
Any false disciples are weeded out.

## Moralistic therapeutic deism

# How were Jesus' disciples strengthened from His teaching in vs. 16-25?

1. They knew going in what the true cost of following Jesus would be.

The risk of the mission also shows the great importance of the mission;  
and the extreme value of the **Mission-Giver**.  
Any false disciples are weeded out.

Moralistic **therapeutic** deism

# How were Jesus' disciples strengthened from His teaching in vs. 16-25?

2. They were able to embrace the tension of:
  - ... going in the strength of the LORD,
  - ... and going in the vulnerability of sheep.

When God is responsible for our wellbeing, we are forced to wholly trust in Him.



# Romans 8

35 Who shall separate us from the love of Christ?

Shall trouble or distress or persecution or famine or nakedness or danger or sword?

36 As it is written:

“For Your sake we face death all day long;

we are considered as sheep to be slaughtered.”

[Psalm 44:22]

# Romans 8

35 Who shall separate us from the love of Christ?

Shall trouble or distress or persecution or famine or nakedness or danger or sword?

36 As it is written:

“For Your sake we face death all day long;

we are considered as sheep to be slaughtered.”

[Psalm 44:22]

## Romans 8

37 No, in all these things we are more than conquerors through Him who loved us.

38 For I am convinced that neither death nor life,

neither angels nor principalities,  
neither the present nor the future,  
nor any powers,

39 neither height nor depth,  
nor anything else in all creation,  
will be able to separate us from the love of God  
that is in Christ Jesus our Lord.

**Satan may be  
winning a bunch of  
battles now, but  
make no mistake,  
God wins the war.**



# How were Jesus' disciples strengthened from His teaching in vs. 16-25?

**3. They were forced to see themselves as dispensable parts of a whole.**

**The message is greater than the messenger.  
The mission was greater than the individual.  
Our Savior was worthy of our sacrifice.**

**When the purpose for my life is Christ's purpose,  
then my life has its utmost significance.**

## Revelation 12

10 And I heard a loud voice in heaven saying:  
“Now have come the salvation and the power  
and the kingdom of our God,  
and the authority of His Christ.

For the accuser of our brothers has been thrown down—  
he who accuses them day and night before our God.

11 They have conquered him by the blood of the Lamb  
and by the word of their testimony.

And they did not love their lives  
so as to shy away from death.

# How were Jesus' disciples strengthened from His teaching in vs. 16-25?

4. They could know that the message they preach is true by the world's response to it.

Jesus is letting them know that if the world loves us, we have not preached the true gospel.

Christ is purifying His message.

# How were Jesus' disciples strengthened from His teaching in vs. 16-25?

**5. This shows the power and the glory of the Gospel of Jesus Christ.**

**Who would ever sign up for this?  
unless the power of God draws men to Himself?**



## 2 Corinthians 4

4 The god of this age has blinded the minds of unbelievers so they cannot see the light of the gospel of the glory of Christ, who is the image of God.

5 For we do not proclaim ourselves, but Jesus Christ as Lord, and ourselves as your servants for Jesus' sake.

6 For God, who said, "Let light shine out of darkness,"

made His light shine in our hearts to give us the light of the knowledge of the glory of God in the face of Jesus Christ.

## 2 Corinthians 4

7 Now we have this treasure in jars of clay to show that this surpassingly great power is from God and not from us.

8 We are hard pressed on all sides, but not crushed;

perplexed, but not in despair;

9 persecuted, but not forsaken; struck down, but not destroyed.

## 2 Corinthians 4

10 We always carry around in our body the death of Jesus, so that the life of Jesus may also be revealed in our body.

11 For we who are alive are always consigned to death for Jesus' sake, so that the life of Jesus may also be revealed in our mortal body.

