MATTHEW 10: MISSION: NOT IMPOSSIBLE

1. THE MISSION: COMMISSIONED WITH GOD'S AUTHORITY

Matthew 10:1-4

- a. Who are the 12?
- b. Apostles vs Disciples
- c. Represent the 12 Tribes of Israel
- d. Leaders in this new movement

2. THE MISSION: IF YOU CHOOSE TO ACCEPT IT

Matthew 10:5-20

- a. Short Term Mission (v. 5-15)
- b. Long Term Mission (v. 16-20):
- c. Every disciple is a missionary.
- d. Our Mission:
 - i. In our smaller communities
 - ii. In our church
 - iii. Worldwide

3. THE MISSION: BE COURAGEOUS. BE BOLD:

Matthew 10:21-42

- a. Changed by God to reach all people
- b. Sheep in the midst of wolves
- c. Mental toughness built by fellowship with God
 - i. How one bears up under persecution is basically determined by whether one is a disciple or not
 - 1. Costs of discipleship
 - ii. The severity of persecution and suffering requires us to give full allegiance to God
- d. God goes with you: Trust your "equipment"
- e. Blessings of discipleship: Kingdom Seekers

Discussion Questions:

- 1) What did you learn in your reading of Matthew 10? What were your aha's? What questions did you have?
- 2) How does understanding the background of the Twelve encourage you to enter boldly into missionary work or support of missionary work?
- 3) How can you begin to see yourself as a true disciple?
- 4) Consider the millions of "lost" souls who do not know Jesus. How can you grow your discipleship locally and globally to help spread the Gospel? How far will you go for Christ?
- 5) Persecution, opposition, suffering and broken relationships are not things we want to willingly experience. How does understanding that Jesus holds the ultimate priority in our lives shift our thinking about these challenges? How does giving Jesus complete allegiance and control of our lives allow us to withstand the cost of discipleship?