


## The Gospel of Matthew

---



## Mission of the Twelve

---

### Three Elements

1. *Perspective* – compassion for the “lost”
2. *Purpose* – to extend the saving reign of God
3. *Expectation* – hostility and opposition

“Do not think that I came to bring peace on the earth; I did not come to bring peace but a sword.


For I came to SET A MAN AGAINST HIS FATHER, AND A DAUGHTER AGAINST HER MOTHER, AND A DAUGHTER-IN-LAW AGAINST HER MOTHER-IN-LAW; and a MAN’S ENEMIES WILL BE THE MEMBERS OF HIS HOUSEHOLD.

“He who loves father or mother more than Me is not worthy of Me; and he who loves son or daughter more than Me is not worthy of Me.

And he who does not take his cross and follow after Me is not worthy of Me.

He who has found his life shall lose it, and he who has lost his life for My sake shall find it”

Matthew 10:34-39 (NASB)




## Nature of Discipleship

---

### 1. Effects of Following Jesus

- not outward peace but division even within family relationships
- lives so transformed in their direction and values that they clash with even the most intimate of relationships



## Nature of Discipleship

---

### Why this effect?

1. The entire world order is given over in rebellion to God
2. Jesus demands supreme allegiance to Himself even over family



## Nature of Discipleship

---

### 2. Essence of Following Jesus

- a call to supreme devotion to Jesus over every human relationship
- a call to an ongoing death to self-interest, even unto physical death



## Nature of Discipleship

---

### Implications

- becoming a follower of Jesus is not a mere addition to your other allegiances
- following Jesus cannot be limited to a mere aspect of your life – He demands your whole life or nothing