



Sermon Notes: “Swords & Rewards”

Matthew 10:34-42

3.1.26

Big Idea:

Our dedication to Christ may cause tensions in our relationships in this life. However, we have the promise of great rewards that come from loving Him above all.

THE SWORD (LOYALTY AND DEDICATION):

- **Jesus becomes the dividing line.** Following Him will create tension—even within families. This isn’t failure; it’s the natural consequence of ultimate allegiance to Christ.
- **The cross represents real sacrifice.** Jesus demands we be willing to carry our cross—to face social death, relational loss, and personal cost for His sake.
- **Jesus can demand this because of who He is.** His identity as the Son of God, sent by the Father, gives Him the authority to make these demands. If He weren’t who He claims, these would be unreasonable.

THE REWARD (POWERFUL KINGDOM IMPACT):

- Everybody plays a part in spreading the gospel.
- Supporters of kingdom workers share their rewards.
- Don’t miss opportunities.

So What?

The Cost Is Real: You need to define your “dividing line” (vv. 34-39)

The Reward Is Certain: So, what is your next step? (vv. 40-42)

For Study, Reflection, Discussion During the Week:

Life Group ICEBREAKER: Have you experienced a fractured relationship due to your commitment to Jesus?

REVIEW:

Review the sermon notes from Sunday. Was there a particular point that stuck with you? What was it and why did it resonate with you?

READ: Matthew 10:34-42

Discussion Questions:

- Is Jesus truly first in your life—or would you compromise to keep family peace?
- What does it look like to ‘carry your cross’ in your life?
- Are you supporting kingdom workers? Who are you encouraging? Take time to pray for them this week.
- Who are the ‘little ones’ in your life that you could serve this week?
- Is there a cup of cold water you are tempted to withhold, because it seems too small to matter?

READ: Galatians 2:20

- What does it mean to live by faith this week?

Don't Forget:

- **Go LOVE Team Training** —2 Kingdoms legalistic Training. All-church Sunday School this next week!
- **Life Group Leader Training March 14th:** 8:30am – 12. Breakfast is provided.
- **Night of Prayer March 17th:** 7pm-8pm

Prayer:

Father,

We pray that Christ is first in our lives. That our dedication to Him is above all others. There are times it is easier said than done, so we give you the honor of putting you first. Thank you for involving us in The Great Commission and what you are doing in our lives and those we come in contact with. May we keep advancing Your Kingdom here on earth both in small impacts and large movements.