

## What Would You Do?

**Matthew 10:34-39**

What would you do for a Klondike bar?

What would you do to hear these words from Jesus at the end of your life?

**“Well done, good and faithful servant”?** We are going to talk about that!

What’s at stake in answering this question is far greater than an ice cream filled dessert. We are talking about our entrance into the Kingdom of Heaven! We are talking about being worthy of being a follower of Jesus!

Jesus is laying out for His followers here in Matt. 10, what it will cost them if they choose to follow Him! Have you ever really considered that question?

As long as we live in this world as followers of Jesus, there will be a cost!

**“Do you not know that friendship with the world is enmity with God? Therefore whoever wishes to be a friend of the world makes himself an enemy of God.” – James 4:4** Every day we are faced with this choice!

- **Would you follow Jesus if it means sacrificing “peace” in your life?**

We live in a divided and conflict-stricken world – It makes sense that we would just desire a little peace & happiness in our lives, but Jesus speaks a different word to us – **“Do not think that I have come to bring peace to the earth. I have not come to bring peace, but a sword.” (vs. 34)**

But isn’t Jesus the *“Prince of Peace”*, and didn’t the angels declare *“Peace to men on earth”* when Jesus was born in Bethlehem?

Jesus is, & brings peace, but His peace is the peace between God & man. He concurred sin, death & the grave, and by faith in Him it puts us in a right standing before God. But we still live in a broken & fallen world.

That brokenness leaves us at war – with the world, the devil, & our own flesh! If we follow Jesus, there will be a target on our backs, just like there was for Jesus Himself. **John 15:18-21** What will we choose?

- **Would you follow Jesus if it means making enemies within your own family? (vs. 35-36)**

You’ve heard it said that there is nothing more important than family, but is there? That’s what Jesus seems to be saying here!

The choice to follow Jesus may not only leave you without peace, it may also cause a wrecking ball to go through your family! Is it worth it?

If Jesus truly is **“the Way, the Truth, and the Life”** then to point our family members to Him, regardless of the outcome, is the best way to love them, and the only way to spend eternity with them!

To be separated from them on earth, in hopes of being united with them in glory, is worth it! We must love our families with the Truth!

When we choose to follow Jesus, we will never be without family! Christian friends become for us family, closer than even blood relatives!

But we also must be aware that following Jesus can/will bring separation between those within the Church as well! Examples:

- **Would you follow Jesus if it means daily bearing your own cross?**

Jesus has already picked up His cross and overcame it! But we too will have a cross to bear, a thorn in our side, burdens to carry!

The cross was/is a symbol of the curse of God upon this world b/c of sin. Everything in this world bears that symbol!

It may show itself in different ways in all of us – a struggling marriage, a wayward child, lost loved ones, a physical ailment, emotional wounds, a bad mental state, broken relationships, etc.

The question will be, “Will you/I pick up our cross daily & follow Jesus?” **“Whoever does not take his cross and follow me is not worthy of me.”**

The Christian life is not for the faint of heart! Following Jesus will be the hardest thing you will ever do in this world, but it will also be the most rewarding!

**“Whoever finds his life (in the things of this world) will lose it, and whoever loses his life for my sake will find it.”** Vs. 39

There are hard sayings of Jesus that are “hard” because we don’t understand them. But there are also hard says of Jesus that are “hard,” because what He is asking of us comes at great cost to ourselves!

Today’s passage is the latter, what will we do in response? **Matthew 6:21**