



LIFE GROUP NOTES

Week Beginning: 23rd July 2023



Matthew 10:1-23 Enduring to the end: Bayo Babalola

Warm Up

In marathon running there is an expression called “hitting the wall.” It means getting to the point where your body wants to stop and you have to force yourself to go on. Have you ever experienced something similar in your life or your journey of faith? Share a story.

Background and context

Jesus is about to send out the twelve disciples on their first mission. He instructs them on the message and how to act on entering a village. He gives them authority to do the things He has done. He then warns them it will not be easy and people will reject them, arrest them, seek to kill them, the world will turn against them. His final message gives them hope - **persevere to the end**.

Thinking it through: Main discussion/activity



READ Matthew 10:1-23. What are the surprising things in the passage? What is new? What don't you really understand? This could be a time to discuss and share reflections and ideas on the passage or watch a Bible project type video that helps explain things.

1. **Read v 5-16.** Why do you think Jesus gave them such specific instructions. Did He not care about Gentiles? Which parts of these instructions would have given the 12 cause for worry or concern? Why?
3. **Read v 17-20.** What is it about the gospel that frightens people to the extent they want to kill Christians?
4. **Read v21-23.** As a pep talk, this does not seem very motivating. What positives are there? Why might these give hope?
5. In what ways has Jesus' prophesy (v21-23) about his followers come true?
6. What does enduring to the end look like in your life?

Growing in discipleship: Practical application



7. In what ways do you feel like a sheep among wolves? Is this a frightening image?
8. How can we be more aware of 'wolves' and protect ourselves, whilst at the same time fulfilling our mission?
9. Do you believe you have authority from Jesus? What does this look like in your life?

Try to leave 15-20 mins to talk about prayer needs of the group and to pray.



We want to encourage the development of prayer, to help everyone grow in confidence in praying. There are many creative ways of praying together: writing prayers, using candles as a focus, reading prayers or praying for each other in pairs.