

# Recap:

**Matthew 10** – 2<sup>nd</sup> major sermon in Mt

V1-15: Sending of the 12

To 'lost sheep of Israel'

In the authority of Jesus to  
continue His ministry – proclaim  
the Good News, heal the sick, cast  
out demons, raise the dead

Motivated by Jesus' compassion  
for the harassed and  
helpless/sheep without a shepherd

V16: summary statement

V17-42: Sending of the Church; focus  
in on the negative response to their  
ministry

## MATTHEW RECAP



# The Persecuted Church

365mil Christians suffer high levels of persecution and discrimination for their faith



**Shrewd** – understanding mixed with wisdom and insight; prudent

- **speaks to tactics** – ‘reading the room;’ recognizing the situation and acting accordingly

**Innocent** – unmixed, pure

- **speaks to motive** – obedience to God and compassion for others

**MATTHEW  
10:16-42**



# Be On Guard

## Expect hostility -

- **From every kind of person** – Jews, Gentiles, even family
- **Because Jesus experienced hostility**

## How to function in midst of hostile situations -

- **Trust God** – He will give you what you need
- **Stand firm** – maintain faithfulness in face of opposition
- **Flee persecution** – when doing so doesn't compromise obedience

**MATTHEW  
10:16-42**



# Live Worthily

**To live worthy of Jesus is to:**

- **Acknowledge Him** – profess ongoing allegiance; (see Peter’s denials for opportunity for restoration)
- **Risk conflict with others** – peace Jesus brings often comes through conflict
- **Prioritize Him over:**
  - **Family**
  - **Our own lives**
- **Accept His ministry through others**

**MATTHEW  
10:16-42**



# Cultivate Discipline and Devotion

**Discipline = riverbed;** structure, routine, practices that help us meet God

- **Prayer** – primary means of communicating with God
- **Bible reading** – primary means of God revealing Himself to us

**Devotion = water;** affection for/commitment to God

- **Ask** – Rom 5.5: God's love is poured into our hearts through the Holy Spirit
- **Worship** – engages our hearts

**MATTHEW  
10:16-42**



# The Persecuted Church

365mil Christians suffer high levels of persecution and discrimination for their faith



# Praying for the Persecuted Church

- Pray your brothers and sisters would be comforted and encouraged by the Lord to continue to live devoted to Jesus.
- Pray their persecutors will come to know Christ.
- Pray that in the midst of persecution, the Church in Africa, the Middle East, and Asia is strengthened in Christ and continues to grow.
- Pray these believers will have access to the Bible.

**MATTHEW  
10:16-42**

