



SMALL GROUP CURRICULUM

Sermon: **“Good News for the Rejected” (Matthew 10:40-42)**

Date: **November 24, 2019**

We are back in Matthew 10 this week finishing up our studies in Jesus’ commissioning sermon to his disciples. After warning his disciples of persecution and calling them to persevere and to fear the Lord above all, he concludes his sermon by expressing how much he loves his disciples. Although many will be hostile toward them, Jesus promises them that some will show them hospitality. And to those who do choose to receive them in love, they will be greatly rewarded. For whoever receives his disciples, receives him. As we study this text, we will learn the importance of showing hospitality to God’s people. Jesus loves his followers so much that he promises to reward and bless anyone who shares in their reproach. If you identify with Jesus, then you must identify with His people. If you receive Jesus, then you must receive his people.

What you need for this study: Bible, Notebook, Pen

Individual Bible Study

1. Please read Matthew 10:40-42 and ensure that you’ve listened to Sunday’s sermon.
 - a. What are some things that he has promised would happen to his disciples so far in this sermon?
 - b. Several times in verses 40-42, Jesus speaks of someone “receiving” somebody else. What does he mean by this?
 - c. In verses 40-42, there are three different types of Christians that Jesus mentions. Who are they? Define each of these terms/phrases that represent different groups of Christians.
 - d. When Jesus refers to “little ones” in verse 42, is he referring to people in general or Christians in particular? How do we know?
 - e. Explain the promise given in verse 40 for those who receive Christ’s disciples.
 - f. What is the significance of Jesus teaching that even those who can only give “a cup of cold water” to one of his disciples will be rewarded?



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- g. Can the reward that we receive for showing hospitality to others be taken away? Explain, defending your answer from this passage.
- h. What is the reward for showing hospitality to His people according to these verses?

Group Discussion Questions

1. How did the Holy Spirit speak to you through the sermon and the Bible study this week?
2. What does it mean to “receive” another brother or sister in Christ? What does it look like to show hospitality to others? Give examples.
3. Is it OK to be motivated by reward when you show hospitality to somebody else? Explain.
4. Can someone be obedient to the principles of hospitality found in this passage without being involved in a local church? Why or why not?
5. Read Galatians 6:10. Why do you think we are commanded to prioritize doing good to our brothers and sisters in Christ before we do good to others in the world?
6. According to verse 40, if you receive another Christian, you receive Jesus. How does this promise motivate you to be hospitable?
7. What can you do to show hospitality to other Christians in your small group? In the church?