

## FAITH THAT DIVIDES RELATIONSHIPS

Matthew 10.21-25, 34-39

### EXPECTING DIVISION

Matthew 10.21-25 // 1 Peter 2.21, 4.12-14 // 1 John 3.13

Division means “two visions.” Don’t be surprised to see that the world view of the bible is radically different than the world view of the world, and so when the two collide, division will be very real. The world is fine with Christians if our world view matches theirs – be good to others, serve, love each other, etc. – but if we insist that it is more than that, we should expect to be persecuted, because Christ was persecuted.

### FAMILIES DIVIDED

Matthew 10.34-39

#### **Are you willing to follow Jesus on His terms?**

We cannot attempt to soften Jesus’ words. It’s just not possible, but yet we do this in order to justify our own lives. But the reality is that **we must be more concerned with others’ relationship with their God rather than their relationship with us.**

### THE SOLUTION: TAKE UP YOUR CROSS

Matthew 10.38, 39

It must have sounded so strange and appalling for the disciples to hear Jesus say, “take up your cross.” The cross was not yet associated with His sacrificial death. There was no sentimental attachment, and no glory of a Savior’s death. In their eyes, a cross had no redeemable value. He’s letting them know that they must be willing to lose all, even their reputation and image, laying everything aside for the sake of the Gospel.

#### **We Must See Ourselves as Walking Dead Men**

- We are dead to self-centeredness
- We are dead to self-preservation
- We are dead to self-infatuation
- We are dead to self-promotion

#### **Christ now determines everything about our life.**

**The bible knows nothing about “nominal” Christians who are only marginally interested.**

**He is no fool who gives what he cannot keep  
in order to get what he cannot lose.**

-Jim Elliot, 1950’s Missionary and Martyr

2 Timothy 3.12-16



## NOTES:

#### Will You Pray With Us?

Follow along with our daily prayer requests by downloading the **PrayerMate App**, available on both **iOS** and **Android** phones. Go to our website for detailed instructions on how to subscribe to the app to be praying with us daily, as well as reading through our **2 Year Bible Reading Plan**.

## ARE YOU NEW HERE?

### WELCOME TO LIFE MISSION CHURCH!

We’re so glad you joined us today! We’d LOVE for you to **fill out the green Connection Card** on your seat to let us know you were here today. You can drop it in the offering at the end of service or take it to one of our **teammates in a Green Shirt** at the **Connection Booth** outside - we’d love to give you some welcome information.

Feel free to **grab some food or coffee** out in the courtyard and hang out. We hope you’ll **join us next Sunday** and consider making us your church family.

### SERVING OPPORTUNITIES

If you’ve ever taken your child to one of our Kids on Mission classes, or enjoyed a cup of coffee after service, chances are there was a **faithful servant** behind each of those examples. By giving your time and talent on Sundays, you’re **an essential part** of helping others meet Jesus, and serving is one of the **most fun & rewarding ways we experience community** with our church family! Fill out a connection card or visit the **Connection Booth** to learn about the serving opportunities available today.

### COMMUNITY GROUPS

The best way to **get connected** in the church is by joining one of our **Community Groups!** You’ll **build friendships**, be encouraged, and take the sermon deeper into your heart every week. **Sign up for a Group** on a **Connection Card** or visit the **Connection Booth**. You won’t regret it!

### GIVING

**Gospel-centered generosity** should never be fueled by obligation or guilt; it should be motivated by a heart of thankfulness because of the sacrificial love God has already shown us. If you call Life Mission your Home, you can place your gift in the offering baskets at the end of service, give online at [lifemissionchurch.com/blog/give](http://lifemissionchurch.com/blog/give) or mail a check to our PO Box. **Thank you so much for your love & support!**

### KIDS ON MISSION

Our Kids are incredibly important to us! The Kids on Mission ministry has classrooms for **newborns - 6<sup>th</sup> grade** & is passionately overseen by **Audra Napolitano**. Please visit [lifemissionchurch.com/blog/kids](http://lifemissionchurch.com/blog/kids) to read more about the vision and plan we have for our kids, including Pastor Jobey’s heart and his walkthrough of our curriculum.

### JUNIOR HIGH & HIGH SCHOOL STUDENTS

Our Junior High students (**7<sup>th</sup> & 8<sup>th</sup> graders**) worship with the adults, and then head to their class for the rest of service. We challenge them to **dig deeper into what they learned on Sunday** throughout the week.

Our **High School students** stay in the adult service because we believe that it is critical for them to not “graduate the faith” when they graduate school. For questions on our student ministries, contact **Casey Barnes** at [hbarnes5@yahoo.com](mailto:hbarnes5@yahoo.com) or **John Hawthorne** at [hawthorne-john@hotmail.com](mailto:hawthorne-john@hotmail.com)



## SAVE.

Jesus was sent to save. We have been saved to be sent. We are sent into our community to share the Good News that Christ came to save us, and we hope to see many who find new life.

## EQUIP.

We want to equip those very people in the Word so that they can continue to grow as disciples of Christ. From our preschool to our adults, our passion is to see everyone equipped in the Gospel to live a life of freedom and joy.

## SEND.

Lastly, we then want to see those equipped people sent into their community and world. From schools and playgrounds, to families and work places, we want to see people who are spiritual leaders in their life, showing people the truth of Christ's Good News.

## CONTACT US:

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## COMMUNITY GROUP HOMEWORK

**Read Matthew 10:21-33.** What stuck out to you in these verses or was the most impactful from the message on Sunday? \_\_\_\_\_

Last week, when we gathered both on Sunday for corporate worship and in our **Community Groups**, many of us studied, talked and prayed about how we would share the Gospel with others. It seemed that fear is one of the main reasons that we don't share our faith. On Sunday, we looked further into this idea of being persecuted for answering the call of follow Jesus. In **Matthew 10:23** Jesus says "when they persecute you", not "if they persecute you." We know that in this life, if we are obedient that we will be persecuted at times for our faith. Explain how are you currently being persecuted or experiencing suffering for the sake of the Gospel. If you are not experiencing suffering or persecution, could it be because you have been fearful or disobedient in answering the call to "proclaim the Gospel from the rooftops" or "acknowledging Him before men?" \_\_\_\_\_

Read **1 Peter 4:17**. What do we have to lose if we don't answer Jesus' call to share the Gospel? What is at stake if we don't "Go"? \_\_\_\_\_

Read **Romans 5:3-5, Matthew 5:11, 1 Peter 4:12-16, 1 Peter 5:10, 2 Corinthians 4:17**. What is encouraging for us to remember when we are obedient in "suffering for the sake of the Gospel?" \_\_\_\_\_

Author and Pastor John Bunyan said "It is not what enemies will, nor what they are resolved upon, but what God will, and what God appoints, that shall be done...And as no enemy can bring suffering upon a man when the will of God is otherwise, so no man can save himself out of their hands when God will deliver him up for his glory...**God has appointed who shall suffer. Suffering comes not by chance or by the will of man, but by the will and appointment of God.**" Write down your thoughts about this quote and share with the group. Does your "flesh" battle any part of this quote? Write your thoughts down in your personal study, then share with the group. \_\_\_\_\_

Recently, in our church's 2 year bible reading plan we read about the story of Joseph. If you remember, Joseph was sold into slavery by his jealous brothers experiencing suffering as a slave and as a prisoner. Read **Genesis 45:1-15**. Who did Joseph give credit to for being sold into slavery? What was his perspective on it? Other way to think of it, who does Joseph thank for his suffering? What can you learn from his outlook on this circumstance? \_\_\_\_\_

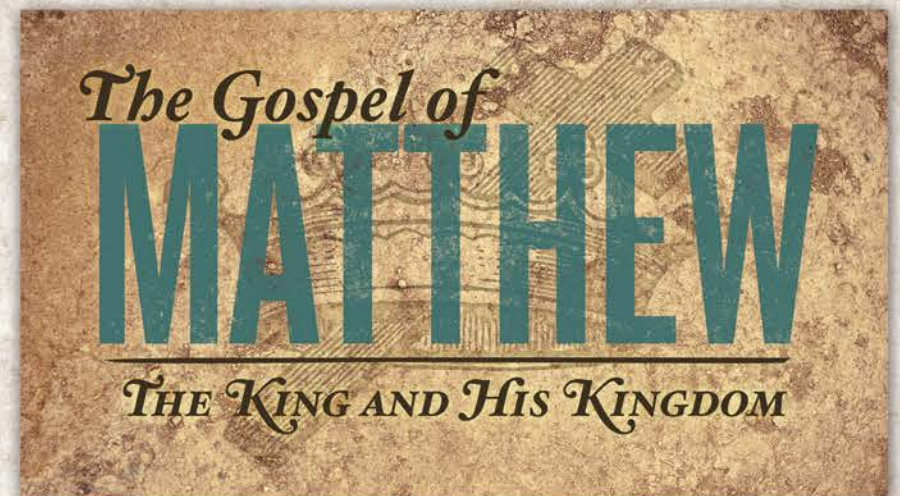
Read **Revelation 5:1-12**. Remind yourself that both in Heaven and on earth Jesus, the "Lamb that was slain" is worshiped because He suffered, because He was slain. Then pray both in your personal time of "abiding" and together in Community with this verse in mind. When you pray, **Preach** this passage into your heart and into your mind! Next, confess and **Repent** of the sin of so often fearing man. Next, **re-read Matthew 10:26-28**. Ask God to give you a heart that does not fear man, but God. Pray for faith that "might not rest in the wisdom of men, but in the power of God." (**1 Corinthians 2:5**) Last, end with Thanksgiving and **Yield** to His will.



LIFE MISSION  
CHURCH

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Equipping a Gospel-Centered Community in the Word of God,  
To Live Out a Gospel-Centered Life Mission to the Glory of God.



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Matthew 10.21-25, 34-39 // February 1, 2015

### 9AM & 11AM SERVICES

Life Mission Church Meets at Light & Life Christian School  
1816 Oak Hill Drive, Escondido 92027

