

## The Cost of Discipleship (Part Two)

Sunday, March 19/23 --- Matthew 10:26-33

*“So have no fear of them, for nothing is covered that will not be revealed... And do not fear those who kill the body but cannot kill the soul. Rather fear him who can destroy both soul and body in hell... So everyone who acknowledges me before men, I also will acknowledge before my Father who is in heaven Matthew 10:26+28+32*

*“Therefore the LORD, the God of Israel, declares: ‘I promised that members of your family would minister before me forever.’ But now the LORD declares: ‘Far be it from me! Those who honor me I will honor, but those who despise me will be disdained. 1. Sam 2:30*

*“God acknowledges us in our suffering, and He walks with us. The implication (of God valuing us more than the sparrow) is that nothing happens to the children of a loving Father which falls outside his providential care; it neither takes him by surprise nor frustrates his purpose. This saying does not, of course, promise immunity from death or suffering for God’s people, only the knowledge that it does not happen without your Father.”*

R. T. France, *The Gospel of Matthew*, The New International Commentary on the New Testament (Grand Rapids, MI: Wm. B. Eerdmans Publication Co., 2007), 404.

1. Compelled to Speak Truth
  
2. Contrast between fear of Man and fear of God
  - a. Voice
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  - b. Value
  
3. Consequences that our choices carry

## Discussion questions

- Can you think of a time where your opinion got you into hot water?
- Is that the same experience that you have noticed when you bring up Jesus with people?
- Would you say that you have been hated or persecuted for your faith?
- How can we speak truth in love? What does either look like without the other?
- How can we honour God in our words and actions?

## Application:

In your circle, ask each other direct questions, be open and honest with the people closest to you about how you're doing sharing the message of the Kingdom of God.

Encourage each other and be accountable to one another, let people see you walking with Jesus and others. Live your faith out loud.