

Title ideas:  
The King is Worthy!  
The King's Disciples!

## Matthew 10:32-42 - The King's Disciples!

### Scriptures:

Romans 10:9-10 - if you confess with your mouth the Lord Jesus and believe in your heart that God has raised Him from the dead, you will be saved. 10 For with the heart one believes unto righteousness, and with the mouth confession is made unto salvation.

32 "Therefore whoever confesses Me before

G3670 – to  
profess publicly.

G1715 – in front  
of.

### Notes:

The context of this text is Jesus sending out His disciples/apostles to share the gospel. The application for us is that wherever God sends us, we should be willing to confess Jesus, not just with our behavior, but also with our words.

This verse also applies to everyone who hears the truth of the gospel. To reject the gospel message is to deny Christ.

To confess is to make a public profession of faith.

"It means to acknowledge the Lord Jesus Christ, and our dependence on Him for salvation, and our attachment to Him, in every proper manner." (Barnes, 1956) page 115

"While lifestyle evangelism is appropriate, it is not sufficient. We must, at some point, confess Jesus with our mouths." (Moore, 2011) page 255

men, him I will also confess before My Father

who is in heaven.

### Scriptures:

33 But whoever denies Me before men, him I

G720 -

### Notes:

will also deny before My Father who is in

heaven.

Scriptures:

Isaiah 9:6-7 -

For unto us a Child is born,  
Unto us a Son is given;  
And the government will be upon His shoulder.  
And His name will be called

Wonderful, Counselor,  
Mighty God,  
Everlasting Father,  
Prince of Peace.

7 Of the increase of His government and peace

There will be no end,  
Upon the throne of David and over His kingdom,

To order it and establish it with judgment and justice

From that time forward, even forever.

The zeal of the LORD of hosts will perform this.

Romans 8:6-8 - For to be carnally minded is death, but to be spiritually minded is life and peace.

7 Because the carnal mind is enmity against God; for it is not subject to the law of God, nor indeed can be.

8 So then, those who are in the flesh cannot please God.

Matthew 10:16 - Behold, I send you out as sheep in the midst of wolves. Therefore be wise as serpents and harmless as doves.

34 "Do not think that I came to bring peace on

G3543 – suppose, consider.

G906 – to change.

G1515 – “peace n. — harmonious relations and freedom from disputes; especially during the absence of war.”

earth. I did not come to bring peace but

G1515 -

a sword.

G3162 – war – “war ⇔ sword n. — war conceived of in terms of a sword; perhaps with an emphasis on the violence of war as opposed to other aspects such as siege.

Notes:

Jesus is the Prince of Peace (Isaiah 9:6-7) and yet here He says He did not come to bring peace but a sword/war. Jesus’ purpose in coming was not to sow discord, but that would be the effect of His coming. Jesus came to save sinners and to do that He created conflict within our soul, between our fallen flesh and God’s Spirit. Peace is only possible when we humble ourselves before God and yield to the work of the Holy Spirit. Once we do that, those who have not done that may not approve of the changes God will bring into our lives and that will result in conflict. Jesus desires peace but not at the expense of salvation, discipleship, and truth.

The cross is offensive to those who are at war with God (Romans 8:7). Christians should be careful to not be deliberately offensive (Matthew 10:16). Our Christ-like behavior ought to draw them to the cross. They be offended by the cross, but that is because they do not want to stop being alienated to God because of their sin.

The sword cuts the heart. The sword is the Word of God. The sword divides between the righteous and the wicked.

Scriptures:  
Micah 7:6 - For son  
dishonors father,  
Daughter rises against  
her mother,  
Daughter-in-law against  
her mother-in-law;  
A man's enemies are the  
men of his own household.

35 For I have come to 'set a man against his

Notes:  
Jesus quotes (Micah 7:6).

father, a daughter against her mother, and a

daughter-in-law against her mother-in-law';

Scriptures:

36 and 'a man's enemies will be those of his

Notes:

own household.'

Scriptures:

37 <sup>♂</sup> He who <sup>♀</sup> loves father or mother more than

G5368 – “a primary love, not unlike ἀγαπάω (agapaō), et.al., yet semantically favors an affection based in interpersonal association.”

G5228 -

Notes:

Jesus is making a very strong statement here. This is a call for absolute supremacy in love of Christ. If Jesus isn't loved more than anything else in this world, then we don't really love Him at all. As much as I love my wife Kelly, she must be second to Christ. That means if I have to chose between loving her or loving Christ, I will love Christ, even if that means she doesn't feel loved the way she wants to be loved. Jesus comes first – He must!

<sup>♂</sup> Me is not worthy of Me. And he who <sup>♀</sup> loves

G514 – deserving.

son or daughter more than <sup>♂</sup> Me is not worthy

of Me. <sup>♂</sup>

Scriptures:

Philippians 3:7-11 – But what things were gain to me, these I have counted loss for Christ. 8 Yet indeed I also count all things loss for the excellence of the knowledge of Christ Jesus my Lord, for whom I have suffered the loss of all things, and count them as rubbish, that I may gain Christ 9 and be found in Him, not having my own righteousness, which is from the law, but that which is through faith in Christ, the righteousness which is from God by faith; 10 that I may know Him and the power of His resurrection, and the fellowship of His sufferings, being conformed to His death, 11 if, by any means, I may attain to the resurrection from the dead.

1 Peter 5:6-7 - Therefore humble yourselves under the mighty hand of God, that He may exalt you in due time, 7 casting all your care upon Him, for He cares for you.

Matthew 20:25-28 - But Jesus called them to Himself and said, "You know that the rulers of the Gentiles lord it over them, and those who are great exercise authority over them. 26 Yet it shall not be so among you; but whoever desires to become great among you, let him be your servant. 27 And whoever desires to be first among you, let him be your slave— 28 just as the Son of Man did not come to be served, but to serve, and to give His life a ransom for many."

Philippians 2:5-11 - Let this mind be in you which was also in Christ Jesus, 6 who, being in the form of God, did not consider it robbery to be equal with God, 7 but made Himself of no reputation, taking the form of a bondservant, and coming in the likeness of men. 8 And being found in appearance as a man, He humbled Himself and became obedient to the point of death, even the death of the cross.

9 Therefore God also has highly exalted Him and given Him the name which is above every name, 10 that at the name of

# 38 And he who does not take his cross and

G2983 – VPAI – take and continue to take.

G4716 – “to deny oneself ↔ carry the cross v. — to deny oneself with lethal determination; conceived of as picking up or carrying a wooden beam to one’s own execution.

# follow after Me is not worthy of Me.

G190 – follow and continue to follow.

G190 -

G514 - deserving

Jesus every knee should bow, of those in heaven, and of those under the earth, 11 and that every tongue should confess that Jesus Christ is Lord, to the glory of God the Father.

To take your cross is not to do something that intentionally produces death, torture, or humiliation in your life. Jesus didn’t choose to go to the cross. Jesus ended up on the cross because He obeyed His Father in heaven. Jesus knew that obedience to the will of His Father would lead Him to the cross and He willingly followed that path.

This Scripture is telling us to do as Christ did. We are to wholeheartedly follow God’s will for our lives regardless of where that will is leading us. If God’s will leads into discomfort or inconvenience, He knew it would before He called us. And if we obey God, His grace will carry us through whatever His will leads us into.

Notes:

To ‘follow after’ is to choose to be a disciple (learner) of Jesus. This is a conscious choice to conform your life to Christ’s life by learning about Him in His Word and allowing the Holy Spirit to change you on the inside. That is not possible until you have chosen to deny yourself and taken your cross.

The cross was the Roman form of capital punishment. The Jews used stoning. The cross was not just for execution. It tortured its victims and humiliated them. By using this image, Jesus is prophesying regarding His death. He is also creating a valid image of the life of a disciple.

Someone condemned to die on the cross was made to carry their cross to the place of execution. It was meant to shame them and make their suffering greater.

Death, torture, and humiliation is the life of a disciple. Not literally, probably. **Death** - To be a true disciple of Christ one must count their life as lost for Christ ([Philippians 3:7-11](#)). This means that you would willingly sacrifice your life for Christ. It also means that you will spend your life for Him every day. **Torture** – It is unlikely that any of us will experience literal torture as a disciple of Christ, but we must be willing to suffer for Him. This might be as simple as discomfort or inconvenience but could include real suffering. This could mean the loss of a relationship, the loss of a position or promotion. It usually includes the loss of opportunities. Many opportunities that come our way will tempt us to compromise our faith in Christ. **Humiliation** – The cross was a humiliating way to die. The victim was stripped and then hung on a cross in a very public place. A placard with their crime was nailed over their head. It could take several days to die on the cross. Humility is one of the signs of a true disciple of Christ. Humility is a choice we make by the influence of the Holy Spirit ([1 Peter 5:6-7](#)). Jesus described this in a practical way in terms of service to others ([Matthew 20:25-28](#)). When we humble ourselves, we are imitating Christ. ([Philippians 2:5-11](#)).

Death, torture, and humiliation are not all a true disciple’s life is all about. There is joy, peace, hope, love, grace, mercy, and all the God wants for you in this life. But a true disciple is not focused on those things, but on knowing Christ and making Him known to others, even if that means death, torture, and humiliation.

Scriptures:

John 10:10 - The thief does not come except to steal, and to kill, and to destroy. I have come that they may have life, and that they may have it more abundantly.

39 He who finds his life will lose it, and he who

G2147 -

G622 – fail to get.

Notes:

“It is only after a seed is buried in the ground that it springs to life. It is only after a caterpillar entombs itself that it can fly. And it is only after a Christian carries a cross that he finds the fullness of life.” (Moore, 2011) page 256

loses his life for My sake will find it.

G622 -

The exhortation here is to determine how we live this temporal life with a focus on how it will impact our eternal life. If our focus is on the things of this world, we will not be living for heaven, which is what God’s will is for our lives.

The abundant life that Jesus promised (John 10:10) is not lived by living an easy life. That life is lived when we let go of our lives and turn them over to Jesus. The abundant life can only be lived through the cross of Christ and by taking up our cross daily.

If we live for this life, all we get is this life. If we live for eternal life, we get eternal life AND all the good God wants for us in this life.

Scriptures:

40 "He who receives you receives Me, and he

G1209 – accept, welcome, accept as true.

Notes:

who receives Me receives Him who sent Me.

G649 – to dispatch.

Scriptures:

41 He who receives a prophet in the name of a

Notes:

When Jesus sent the disciples/apostles out, He told them to bless the home of those who took care of them on their journey. The principle is; if you bless God's people, God will bless you.

prophet shall receive a prophet's reward. And

G2983 – VFMI – shall receive in the future.

G3408 -

This is a powerful promise to those who come alongside those who are actively serving in the ministry. Over the years many have commented to me that they couldn't do what I do. The reason for that is because I was called, equipped, and sent to do this. They weren't! Here Jesus says that those who help those who were called, equipped, and sent, they will receive the same rewards as those doing the work. You may not be able to stand in front of a group of people and preach a sermon, but if you help someone who can, you will receive the same reward from Jesus as that preacher.

he who receives a righteous man in the name

As a true disciple it is pleasant to know that there are rewards for faithful service to God. But as a faithful servant, I do not serve for the rewards. I serve because the Spirit of God compels me to and I serve because my love for God compels me to.

of a righteous man shall receive a righteous

man's reward.

Scriptures:

Matthew 25:40 - And the King will answer and say to them, 'Assuredly, I say to you, inasmuch as you did it to one of the least of these My brethren, you did it to Me.'

42 And whoever gives one of these little ones

Notes:

'little ones' could be referring to the disciples and their lack of provision for the ministry Jesus is sending them on.

God will reward even the smallest act of kindness done in the Lord's name. Jesus would later say that doing these simple acts of kindness was an act of kindness toward Christ ([Matthew 25:40](#)).

only a cup of cold **water** in the name of a

disciple, assuredly, I say to you, he shall by no

means lose his reward."

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