

TAKE YOUR CROSS AND FOLLOW JESUS

Matthew 10:34-42

Key Verse: 10:38

1. Read verses 34-37. Why does Jesus say that he did not come to bring peace, but a sword? (How can we reconcile this with his promise to give peace in Jn 14:27 and his name, Prince of Peace in Isaiah 9)
2. Read verse 35-37 again. Why might family members who love each other become enemies? What priorities does Jesus establish for disciples? (37) Why is it important to set priorities?
3. Read verse 38. What was Jesus' cross? By taking it, what did he accomplish? What does it mean for each of us to take his cross? To refuse to take it? What different crosses must different people take? What does it mean to follow Jesus?
4. Read verse 39. What does it mean to find one's life and lose it? To lose one's life for Jesus' sake and find it? (Compare Mt 16:24-26)
5. Read verses 40-42. What does it mean to receive a disciple of Jesus? a prophet? A righteous man? What are the rewards?