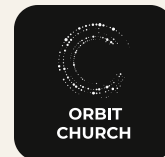


We are Not the Same

2026-04-20 • PASTOR MATT ROSE



Matthew 10

FOR THE LEADER

These questions help you run the conversation. They are not your study. Get into the passage yourself first, because your group needs what God taught you, not just a list of questions. These also lean on Sunday's message, so a few will not land for anyone who missed it. Watch it before you lead.

WHAT THE MESSAGE WAS ABOUT

Jesus said something almost nobody puts on a coffee mug: I did not come to bring peace, but a sword. Pastor Matt walked through what he actually meant. Matthew wrote to a mostly Jewish audience, and Jesus is quoting Micah 7:6, a prophecy about a household divided against itself. Believers who got cut off by their own families would know the division had been foretold. Pastor Matt closed on the two Greek words for sword. Jesus did not come the first time carrying the broadsword of conquest. He came with a short surgical blade, the kind that divides so a real decision becomes possible.

To get started

- What is a decision you made that changed how someone close to you saw you?

Looking back at the message

Some people in the room are living this. Handle it gently and do not generalise about anyone's family.

- 1 Pastor Matt said we prefer a peaceful Jesus and skip past sentences like this one. Which version of Jesus do you find easier to picture, and why?
- 2 Jesus quoted Micah's prophecy so believers cut off by their families would know the division had been foretold. How does knowing something was anticipated change the pain of it?
- 3 Pastor Matt explained that in the ancient world, being divided from your family over faith cost you your inheritance and your standing, not just awkward holidays. What does that add to how you hear this passage? OPTIONAL

Looking at the passage

Read Matthew 10:34-39 and then Micah 7:6. Read them in that order.

- 4 Read Matthew 10:34-36. What does Jesus say he did not come to bring, and what does he say he brought instead?
- 5 Now read Micah 7:6. What is Jesus quoting, and what hope does the rest of Micah 7 go on to offer?
- 6 Verse 37 says anyone who loves father or mother more than Jesus is not worthy of him. Is Jesus ranking the people we love, or doing something else?
- 7 Hebrews 4:12 describes the word of God as a blade that divides soul and spirit. How does that image help you read the sword in Matthew 10? OPTIONAL

Bringing it home

Nobody should be pushed to disclose family pain. Keep every question answerable in the abstract.

- 8 Pastor Matt pictured a scale with Jesus on one side and everything else we love on the other, and said the goal is to weigh them accurately. What would an accurate measure look like in your life?
- 9 Following Jesus has costs that do not show up in the brochure. Have you paid one you did not expect when you started?
- 10 How do you love family members who do not share your faith without pretending nothing is different?
- 11 Is there someone in your family you keep hoping will come around? You do not have to say who. OPTIONAL

The group together

This passage costs people something. A group is often what makes the cost bearable.

- 12 The believers Matthew wrote to had lost their families and needed a new one. What does that tell you a church is actually for?
- 13 How could this group support someone whose own household makes their faith harder rather than easier?
- 14 Who do you know who would find church a relief rather than a threat if someone brought them?

BEFORE YOU FINISH

Where have you felt the cost of following Jesus most recently, and what has helped you keep going?

You might pray about

- For people here whose families do not understand their faith
- For love toward those who have distanced themselves from us
- For honesty about what following Jesus has actually cost
- For the day when the dividing is over and the peace is complete