

SERMON NOTE: Becoming A Contagious Church-Mission Confrontation

By: Rev Dr Chuah SP

Bible Ref: Matthew 10:16-42 NIV

"I am sending you out like sheep among wolves. Therefore be as shrewd as snakes and as innocent as doves. Be on your guard; you will be handed over to the local councils and be flogged in the synagogues. On my account you will be brought before governors and kings as witnesses to them and to the Gentiles. But when they arrest you, do not worry about what to say or how to say it. At that time you will be given what to say, for it will not be you speaking, but the Spirit of your Father speaking through you. "Brother will betray brother to death, and a father his child; children will rebel against their parents and have them put to death. You will be hated by everyone because of me, but the one who stands firm to the end will be saved. When you are persecuted in one place, flee to another. Truly I tell you, you will not finish going through the towns of Israel before the Son of Man comes. "The student is not above the teacher, nor a servant above his master. It is enough for students to be like their teachers, and servants like their masters. If the head of the house has been called Beelzebul, how much more the members of his household! "So do not be afraid of them, for there is nothing concealed that will not be disclosed, or hidden that will not be made known. What I tell you in the dark, speak in the daylight; what is whispered in your ear, proclaim from the roofs. Do not be afraid of those who kill the body but cannot kill the soul. Rather, be afraid of the One who can destroy both soul and body in hell. Are not two sparrows sold for a penny? Yet not one of them will fall to the ground outside your Father's care. And even the very hairs of your head are all numbered. So don't be afraid; you are worth more than many sparrows. "Whoever acknowledges me before others, I will also acknowledge before my Father in heaven. But whoever disowns me before others, I will disown before my Father in heaven. "Do not suppose that I have come to bring peace to the earth. I did not come to bring peace, but a sword. For I have come to turn "a man against his father, a daughter against her mother, a daughter-in-law against her mother-in-law— a man's enemies will be the members of his own household.' "Anyone who loves their father or mother more than me is not worthy of me; anyone who loves their son or daughter more than me is not worthy of me. Whoever does not take up their cross and follow me is not worthy of me. Whoever finds their life will lose it, and

whoever loses their life for my sake will find it. "Anyone who welcomes you welcomes me, and anyone who welcomes me welcomes the one who sent me. Whoever welcomes a prophet as a prophet will receive a prophet's reward, and whoever welcomes a righteous person as a righteous person will receive a righteous person's reward. And if anyone gives even a cup of cold water to one of these little ones who is my disciple, truly I tell you, that person will certainly not lose their reward."

<https://bible.com/bible/111/mat.10.16-42.NIV>



Be Courageous

'I am sending you out like sheep among wolves. Therefore be as shrewd as snakes and as innocent as doves.

Know who sent us!



Be wise and swift as serpents,
Simple and sincere as doves.

Tough-minded but tenderhearted!

Tough-minded but need tenderhearted.

The Master Himself has faced such confrontations

²⁴ 'The student is not above the teacher, nor a servant above his master. ²⁵ It is enough for students to be like their teachers, and servants like their masters. If the head of the house has been called Beelzebul, how much more the members of his household!



Expect Confrontation

¹⁷ Be on your guard; you will be handed over to the local councils and be flogged in the synagogues. ¹⁸ On my account you will be brought before governors and kings as witnesses to them and to the Gentiles.



From the religious and government authority.

Do not be afraid

²⁶ 'So do not be afraid of them, for there is nothing concealed that will not be disclosed, or hidden that will not be made known. ²⁷ What I tell you in the dark, speak in the daylight; what is whispered in your ear, proclaim from the roofs.

**Live in the light. Proclaim the truth!
God will bring everything to light**



Live in the Light and not hide in darkness of sins.

Expect Confrontation

²¹ 'Brother will betray brother to death, and a father his child; children will rebel against their parents and have them put to death.

From the family



Do not be afraid

²⁸ Do not be afraid of those who kill the body but cannot kill the soul. Rather, be afraid of the One who can destroy both soul and body in hell.

**Fear God not man!
Only God holds the key to our eternal future**



Be Confident

¹⁹ But when they arrest you, do not worry about what to say or how to say it. At that time you will be given what to say, ²⁰ for it will not be you speaking, but the Spirit of your Father speaking through you.

Do not worry. God is with us.



Do not be afraid

²⁹ Are not two sparrows sold for a penny? Yet not one of them will fall to the ground outside your Father's care. ³⁰ And even the very hairs of your head are all numbered. ³¹ So don't be afraid; you are worth more than many sparrows.

**God Cares!
We are special and valuable
His Providence is sufficient!**



Christ honors those who confess Him

³² *Whoever acknowledges me before others, I will also acknowledge before my Father in heaven.* ³³ *But whoever disowns me before others, I will disown before my Father in heaven.*



Christ is Our Defender in Heaven!

Be Committed

³⁴ *Do not suppose that I have come to bring peace to the earth. I did not come to bring peace, but a sword...* ³⁶ *a man's enemies will be the members of his own household."* ³⁷ *Anyone who loves their father or mother more than me is not worthy of me; anyone who loves their son or daughter more than me is not worthy of me.*

**Get our priority right
Love Christ supremely above all else**



**Jesus is the Lord of our life
If Jesus is not the Lord of All
He is not the Lord at all!**

Worship Him only!

Idols of our life

"People make good things god things"

Health, Family, Career, Aspirations.



Surrender to Christ and truly live!

³⁸ *Whoever does not take up their cross and follow me is not worthy of me.* ³⁹ *Whoever finds their life will lose it, and whoever loses their life for my sake will find it.*



**Deny yourself,
Take up the cross
and Follow him**

The Southern Monkey Trap Hand in the Coconut



The Southern Monkey Trap Hand in the Coconut

I'm not letting go!



Divine opportunity to bless others

⁴⁰ *Anyone who welcomes you welcomes me... Whoever welcomes a prophet as a prophet will receive a prophet's reward, and whoever welcomes a righteous person as a righteous person will receive a righteous person's reward. And if anyone gives even a cup of cold water to one of these little ones who is my disciple, truly I tell you, that person will certainly not lose their reward.'*



**We are agents
of His blessing**

In closing

- Be Courageous - Expect confrontation
- Be Confident - Do not live in fear
- Be Committed - Seek first his kingdom and righteousness
- Heed the warning and live the full life sharing the good news for his glory!



Holy Lighters Be Contagious Witnesses GO to our harvest field

Acts 1:8 We are to be witnesses in Jerusalem, Judea, Samaria, and ends of the earth.

