**The Instructions Say …**

Matthew 10:16-25

August 10, 2025

**Introduction**

Every husband in here has heard their wife say to them ‘did you read the instructions?’

Every wife in here has said to their husband ‘did you read the instructions?’

Its not that men can’t read rather

Men have a stubborn streak

they think they know what to do, want to figure it out for themselves

don’t want to ask

don’t need help

often times after fussing around for awhile and getting frustrated – finally go to the

instructions

I know that instructions are often hard to understand, in small print but there to help

This past week – I was trying to use label printer Sandy had bought, couldn’t get it to do

what I wanted. Sandy brought me the instructions, I read and I solved problem

2 Weeks ago we looked at Matthew 10:1-16 Jesus sending out His 12 disciples and He

was giving them instructions, main thing Jesus said: having a going mindset

I noted to you that some of what Jesus said He was saying specifically to the twelve

He gave *them* power to heal the sick, cast out demons, raise the dead

Today we continue with JS instructions … What do JS Instructions Say? some to 12 some also2us

**1st What Jesus Is Doing With You 16a**

1st Century Disciples – behold I send you out

Behold i.e. listen up

They had been with Jesus, observing, learning, training, taught

Now Jesus sends them out, i.e. away from Himself, on their own, training, see v5

21st Century Disciples

Listen up and read the instruction manual first

Equipping and learning in the church

Sent out to apply, to try, to put into practice

**2nd How You Should Think of Yourself 16b**

1st Century Disciples – as sheep

Ps23:1 – the Lord is my Shepherd

Is53:6 – all we like sheep have gone astray

Ezk 34:10 – thus says the Lord, I Myself will search for My sheep and seek them

Mt9:36 – Jesus moved with compassion seeing the multitudes like sheep w/o…

J10:14,27 – I am the good Shepherd 14…My sheep hear My voice27

Why Jesus think of them as sheep? Sheep depend on the shepherd for survival

21st Century Disciples

If you could be like any animal, you probably would not pick a sheep, but JS did

Dependent on the Lord, look to Him,

**3rd Where You Are Going 16c**

1st Century Disciples – in the midst of wolves

Wolves are enemies of sheep

Wolves kill sheep

Jesus sends His disciples as sheep into a world that has wolves, i.e. ppl destroy

they are surrounded by enemies/danger, He is honest w dangers they face

21st Century Disciples

Spiritual dangers and enemies everywhere

Do not be naïve, as a believer many would devour you

U should not to be afraid or absent, you were sent, He is with you always Mt28:20

**4th What You Need To Be 16d**

1st Century Disciples – be wise as serpents and innocent as doves

Being – character, who you are inside, the nature of who you are

Two figures that illustrate again from the animal world

Serpents thought to be wise, clever, cunning i.e. using your brain and calculating

your circumstances and those around you, cautious, shrewd

doves – harmless, pure, unmixed, innocent, no danger to anyone, peace, gentle

21st Century Disciples

Christians need to be wise and prudent

So much of the Sermon on the Mount is about being, character

No matter what circumstances surround you, how bad people are to you

You need to evidence your Christian character – who you are in Christ

Avoid conflicts, innocent, don’t be naïve, E6:10 be strong in the Lord

**5th What You Should Expect 17-25**

1st Century Disciples

Beware of men – they will deliver you up to …17-20

When you are delivered up do not worry about what you will say

Help from the Holy Spirit, be on guard

Brother deliver brother, father his children, children rise up against parents 21

Hated by all for My names sake, Acts…apostles saw in apostolic ear of the church

Endure to the end will be saved, stand firm

Persecuted in one city flee to the next, not have gone through all the cities before

the Son of Man comes

Disciple not above his teacher, nor a servant his master, enough to be like his

Teacher and servant like his master

If they call the master of the house Beelzebub, how much more the household

Beelzebub/Beelzeboul[NU]i.e. prince of demons 2Kn12Mt1224Lk1115

Shocking insult and charge

Do not fear them, all will be revealed, all will be known

21st Century Disciples

I think we have some wrong expectations as Christians in our world

Many Christians in the country, majority, entitled, deserving…

We have a feeling of ‘entitlement’ – we might feel we deserve better because we

are Christian, better from our world, from those who might mistreat us

you may be treated better than Jesus, but don’t expect it/act like Udeserve

Christian entitlement is a myth – we only think this way because Christianity is

widespread in our country.

Christianity is on the decline in our culture, we are increasingly a secular

Culture

We need to recover the right pursuit i.e. Paul in Ph 3:8-10

2Ti3:12all desire to live godly suffer persecution

Study 1Peter, word ‘suffer’ 18X’s, more twice as much as any other book

e.g. 2:19,21 3:14 4:1,13,19 5:10

We need to endure and persevere through difficulties and overcome

PTL that widespread persecution of Christians is not what we face

But we need to press forward to the things that Jesus instructed us in

Persecution and trouble should be expected because you are a Christian

Don’t expect ppl to receive U with open arms because U are a Christian

We can expect similar treatment to the early disciples and Jesus

We do not need to fear