

## HOW TO FACE HOSTILITY

### Why are people hostile today?

- 1). Fear
- 2). Selfishness

Matthew 10:39 (NLT) *If you cling to your life, you will lose it; but if you give up your life for me, you will find it.*

Here's a few tips:

- Listen
- Ask
- Care
- Share

- 3). Hurt.

### We are going to do 4 things to help us overcome hostility:

#### 1). Show Compassion (9:35-38)

<sup>35</sup> Jesus went through all the towns and villages, teaching in their synagogues, proclaiming the good news of the kingdom and healing every disease and sickness. <sup>36</sup> When he saw the crowds, he had compassion on them, because they were harassed and helpless, like sheep without a shepherd. <sup>37</sup> Then he said to his disciples, "The harvest is plentiful but the workers are few. <sup>38</sup> Ask the Lord of the harvest, therefore, to send out workers into his harvest field."

We are SHOWN compassion to SHOW compassion.

"What comes into your mind when you think about God is the most important thing about us."  
-AW Tozer

#### Different levels of compassion:

- Low Level Compassion: Feel bad for someone.
- High Level Compassion: Deepest level of your organs

## **2). Follow Christ's Instructions (10:1-15)**

Matthew 10:9 (NIV) *Do not get any gold or silver or copper to take with you in your belts <sup>10</sup> no bag for the journey or extra shirt or sandals or a staff, for the worker is worth his keep.*

## **3). Be Wise and Shrewd (10:16-23)**

Matthew 10:16 (NIV) *I am sending you out like sheep among wolves. Therefore be as shrewd as snakes and as innocent as doves. <sup>17</sup> Be on your guard; you will be handed over to the local councils and be flogged in the synagogues.*

- I will give you the words to say by the Spirit (vs. 20)
- Your own family may betray you (vs. 21)
- People will hate you (vs. 22)
- Stand firm to the end (vs. 22)

Matthew 10:22 (NIV) *You will be hated by everyone because of me, but the one who stands firm to the end will be saved.*

## **4). Love God First (10:24-42)**

Matthew 10:26 (NIV) *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. <sup>27</sup> What I tell you in the dark, speak in the daylight; what is whispered in your ear, proclaim from the roofs. <sup>28</sup> 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.*

Matthew 10:29 (NIV) *Are not two sparrows sold for a penny? Yet not one of them will fall to the ground outside your Father's care. <sup>30</sup> And even the very hairs of your head are all numbered. <sup>31</sup> So don't be afraid; you are worth more than many sparrows.*

- If you acknowledge me, I'll acknowledge you (vs. 32)
- I have come to not to bring peace but a sword (vs. 33)
- Whoever loves someone else more than me, is not worthy of me (vs. 37)