

Matthew 10: 32- 39

Discovery: Pushback is the environment for birthing a new kind of Faith in us.

1. Kingdom Faith goes B _____
P _____ C _____ vv. 32- 33
 It's difficult to embrace a R _____ & be silent about it. Personal faith does not downgrade to Private faith.

2. Kingdom Faith Goes B _____
P _____ - K _____ . vv.34- 37

Historically: Christians were sent to the Coliseum to die. Shunned. "Dis-fellowshipped". Pushback emerged very close to home.

The Tension: What about the "family first" adage for Christians??? Our caring, devotion, sacrifice? Shouldn't we jus "keep the peace"?

Note: Ephesians 5: 21 "Submit to one another *out of reverence for Christ*"

- *Our families are meant to submit to the priorities & culture of Christ NOT vice versa.*

Theological Aside: The King is operative in all our realms, "buckets" Psalm 24: 1-2, 8- 9

Godly Hebrews in the Old Testament made no distinction between spiritual & physical. God assumed to be King of all, present in all.

- We could knee-jerk response to Jesus edgy challenge... Do more, faster, better, deeper... to become "worthy of Him". He has something richer in mind.

3. Kingdom Faith goes Beyond D _____ .
Vv. 38- 39

What emerges in "cross- bearing" is the "juice", the fulfillment of new life.

"but if you give up your life for me you will find it" Matt 10: 39

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LIFE GROUP QUESTIONS

1. What do you suppose is the expression on Jesus' face when He issues this challenge to the disciples He is commissioning in Matt 10: 32- 39? What might be their first questions, responses to this news about "pushback"?
2. In verses 32- 33, what is Jesus main point about acknowledging Him publicly? How would you teach this principle to your children? Suppose Dan is right & Jesus was really inciting a top -to -bottom lifestyle "revolution"- what teaching of His seems most revolutionary to you? Most contrary to the world system?
3. How have you seen that following Jesus brings "a sword" (10: 34) to families in your network? How does artificial "peace-keeping" keep us from feeling the edge of this? What values & goals in your family is God prodding you to re- examine? What will this look like for you?
4. What encouraged you about this teaching? Provoked you?