

## **DTR: DEFINE THE RELATIONSHIP**

**Pastor Bill Bowers | March 4, 2018**

*Did I come to bring peace?*

**Scripture:** Matthew 10:5-11:1

1. The **mission**: **GO!** (Matthew 10:5-31)
2. The **mark** of a **disciple**: (Matthew 10:32–42)
  - I acknowledge Jesus publicly and am not ashamed to say so. (vv. 32-33)
  - I love Jesus more than all other earthly affections. (vv. 34-37)
  - I willingly take up “my cross” and follow Jesus. (v. 38-39)
  - I welcome hospitality. (vv. 40-42)

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### **HOMEGROUP & PERSONAL STUDY QUESTIONS**

1. Write out your personal definition of “peace;” do this without the aid of dictionaries or the internet. Now, using the internet, look up the definition of the Hebrew word “shalom,” this would have been the context of meaning Jesus was using when he spoke the word “peace.” How does your personal definition compare with what you found for the word “shalom?”
2. Do you think the definition of peace as shalom brings greater clarity to Jesus’ words in Matthew 10:34? Please share your thoughts.
3. How would you describe “acknowledging Jesus publicly?” Can you share real examples of your public acknowledgment of Jesus in your life?
4. Do Jesus’ words cause you discomfort or confusion when he confesses he has come to divide “man against his father, a daughter against mother...” (Matt. 10:34-36)? Please share what you mean when Jesus demands your love for him be greater than your love for any other one or other thing. Is there a benefit or detriment to your loving Jesus more than others? Please explain your answer.
5. An oft-quoted statement in Christianity is, “Take up your cross and follow me...” (Jesus). What do you really think this means? Please describe your response with examples from your personal life experiences.
6. Do you believe there might be times when “disturbing the peace” might be that catalyst for bringing peace? Can you give an example to support your answer?
7. Do you sense God’s call to you in any way regarding this teaching today? What response do you think God is asking of you? How will you respond?