

Matthew 10:34-11:1 Sermon Discussion Questions
March 26, 2023

Intro:

- Thinking about any form of competition you've engaged in, what was your greatest/most memorable/most meaningful moment?

1. I (Jesus) am competing for the world

- How do you make sense of Jesus saying "I have not come to bring peace, but a sword" when in many other places the Bible says Jesus has come to bring peace?
- Chuck explained this by saying that Jesus doesn't come to KEEP the peace but to MAKE peace. What's the difference between the two?
- How have you experienced Jesus "disturbing the peace" in your life (in your family, in other communities)? How have you dealt with this? Can you see this as a good thing?

2. Are you with me?

- Chuck referenced John 21:15-19, where after his resurrection, Jesus asks Peter three times "Do you love me?" What's your honest answer to Jesus asking you, "Do you love me?" Explain.
- In your own words, what exactly does Jesus mean when he says we need to take our cross and follow him and lose our life (10:38-39)? What are some examples of this from your life, past or present? What are some new ways you might step into this cross-bearing life?
- Chuck made the statement that if you say you believe the gospel but Jesus isn't really your first priority, then you haven't really met Jesus. What's your reaction to this? Why?

3. Those who are with me cannot lose

- How does it impact you to know that Jesus is seeing and keeping track of your acts of love to the "little ones"?
- How would your life look different if you more fully lived in the reality that you represent Jesus (10:40 "whoever receives you receives me")?
- Why does Jesus promise to give "a prophet's reward" to those who simply receive that prophet? What is he getting at here? What might this look like in your life?