Matthew 10:5-26

3 Groups of Disciples

I. Slide1-3 Announce:

A. TY to Gunnery Sergeant Randy Bennett ret. And his daughter Heidi, Marine Corps Jr. ROTC Cadet Staff Sergeant. (Posting the Colors) Mike Caruso. Scott Harris reading Missing Man Table

B. Slide4 This Wed Night - An all church family night. Free food and dessert.
   1. It's a chance for many of the kids to meet their new leaders as they move on up to their new grade. We'll have areas 4 parents to meet leaders/ask questions.

C. Slide5 Move On Up - Next Sun all children/youth move up to their new age/grade level.
   1. It is also Sunday Funday, games & music for all the children/youth.
   2. Also, only a few summer needs: 2 helpers 2nd service. 1 Teacher/3 helpers 3rd.

D. Slide6 Thrive - Start next Sun. A Foundational class for both new/old believers. What is the Church? Agape rm during 3rd service. [* also Baptism pics on CM/FB]

E. Slide7 Some of you remember John & Tanneke Webb, members here for many years before Tanneke got sick. She went to be with the Lord on Mothers Day. Her service is @ Riverview EV Free in Bonsall, this Sat June 4th, 2pm.

II. Slide8 Intro:

A. Here we have instructions to 3 kinds of disciples, each group living at a different time.
   1. Some of these instructions will be specifically for the apostles (vs.5-15).
      Some to those serving just before the Lords return (16-23).
      Some to faithful disciples, living all throughout church history (24-26).
      a) However, spiritual principles are here for all of God’s servants.

B. Mrk.6:7 tells us the 12 went out in pairs...which explains their names in pairs. (2-4)
   1. This text specifically, is NOT our commission today.
   2. We may learn from the spiritual principles but we shouldn’t apply these instructions to our lives today.
      a) Later Jesus tells them to do almost the opposite (diff. situation) Lk.22:35-38.
      b) Our commission is to All the world...not only to the Jews.

C. Some of the spiritual principles we can grab from this section is Pray - Power - Go.
1. This is the perpetual order of *the messengers & missionaries* of His kingdom.

III. Slide 9 **TO FORMER DISCIPLES (5-15)** *The 12 disciples of His day*

A. Slide 10a **Their mission field** (5-6)
   1. They are to go only to the Jews, the *lost sheep of Israel*.
   2. He tells these original *Jews for Jesus*, to stay in the pastures near the fold.
      [don’t even go to those who *most resemble* the Jews, the Samaritans]

B. Slide 10b **Their mission** (7-15)
   1. To preach that God’s Kingdom is near (7).
   2. To heal the sick, raise the dead, and cast out demons (8a).
      a) They are given authority to do these things. Jesus gave them the Power (vs. 1). Zech.4:6
         1) Not by *power* (an indiv’s strength) not by *might* (military), but by *My Spirit*.
      b) Preach & Heal - Jesus the *1st Medical missionary* tells them not to only minister to their *souls*, but also to their physical *bodies*.
         1) Because often the healing of *disease* is a way of approaching the *soul*.
   3. To give freely (8b). (*power* is the context)
   4. To remain unburdened (9,10). *Trust God to provide*.
      a) Leave the Master Card & Visa at home along w/your wallet. [It keeps you humble when you can’t pay]
      b) Don’t be encumbered by *excess* material goods. (note *plurals* in vs.10)
         1) No need for 2 suitcases & a carry on. If the weather changes they’ll provide you a coat. They’ll take care of you, a *workman’s worthy of his hire*.
   5. To bless or curse each town upon leaving (11-15).
      a) The Apostles depended on Hospitality. For a town to refuse a guest was a *breach of etiquette*.
   6. Slide 11a (11) **Stay there** - Don’t seek better accommodations.
      a) Wealthy people will always turn up, *but* don’t forget the *worthy men & women* who 1st took care of you.
   7. (13) *Let your peace*, or your *shalom aleikhem*, be upon that city.
a) Slide11b/c If you come as a blessing, come with a blessing.

b) Application for us...Spurgeon said, We should never enter a house w/o wishing it good, not to leave it w/o having endeavored to make it better.

c) Not sure how to bless them? Use Num.6:22-27 Then the Lord said to Moses, Tell Aaron and his sons to bless the people of Israel with this special blessing: May the Lord bless you and protect you. May the Lord smile on you and be gracious to you. May the Lord show you His favor and give you His peace. Whenever Aaron and his sons bless the people of Israel in my name, I myself will bless them.”

8. If you trusted them to be worthy & they turned out not to be - grab your peace back, & leave. No Compromise.

9. (14) They weren’t to rail on them, but to let them know they must leave because they refused their message.
   a) Maybe to let impenitent sinners know where they stand.

10.(15) The Lord seals their fearful doom w/an Assuredly, I say unto you.
   a) All individuals fall into this judgment even today, whom reject the Kings Messengers, that bring the Kings Message.

IV. Slide12 TO FUTURE DISCIPLES (16-23) Living During the Time of the Great Trib

A. It is not unusual for Bible writers to leap from one period to another without warning.

1. Here Jesus looks down through history and sees those who will be His witnesses during the Tribulation period.

B. These verses do not apply to the 12 Apostles for several reasons:

1. See Jesus’ statement in vs.23.

2. Here He speaks of persecution which we have no record the 12 suffered during their tour. (17)

3. (5) forbids them to go to the Gentiles, while v.18 says they will be witnesses to the Gentiles.

4. The Spirit could not speak in them until after Christ had been crucified and raised from the dead (Jn14:17).
5. (22) This vs. speaks of World-wide persecution (*all*). *The apostles were only ministering in their land.*

6. (22,23) *parallel* Mt.24:9,13 where they *definitely* apply to the end time.

C. Slide13a **The enemies of God will Hate them** (10:16-18, 23).

1. Religious persecution (16,17).
   a) They will be handed over to councils and beaten in synagogues. Religion has always persecuted the true church (*i.e.* the unconverted Saul of Tarsus).
   b) *I send you out as sheep in the midst of wolves...Oh, Great!*  
      (1) I wonder how team #6 is doing (vs.4)? We have an attack sheep (Simon the Zealot) & a wolf in sheep clothes (Judas).
   c) What do you get when you cross a *smart snake & a delicate dove?* Well, it should be believers during the Trib. Tough-minded & Tender-hearted. Steel/Velvet.
   d) They aren’t sent to *fight* w/wolves. Nor *drive* them out of the places they frequent.  
      But seek to *transform them.* (Spurg) [No, *Dancing w/Wolves*]
      (1) They’ll have a Wolf ministry. They must be wise to convince them & warmhearted to convict them.

2. Political persecution (18-20).
   a) *They will be brought before governors & kings;* this will give them a chance to witness/testimony. We can always turn *Opposition into Opportunity.*
   b) The Revelation teaches that in the last days *Government & Religion* will work together to control the world.
      (1) *Rev.13* describes the time when the *world ruler* (antichrist) will force the world to *worship* him & his image. [marrying once again those 2 offices]
      (2) He will control *world religion, economics, & government.* And he will also use *all 3* to *persecute* the church.

3. Family persecution (21).
   a) *Non-believing* family members will betray those who have become Jesus’ disciples.
   b) There will be a decay of *family love & loyalty.*

4. General persecution (22,23).
   a) Everyone will hate them because of their *allegiance to Christ.*
b) He who endures to the end will be saved - has nothing to do with salvation from sin. It is talking about the faithful endurance of His ambassadors during the time of persecution in the Tribulation.

c) (23) They’ll always have work to do & a message to proclaim, for the sake of the kingdom.

D. Slide13a The Spirit of God will Help them (19,20). [The enemies of God will Hate them but...]

1. He will give them the right words to say.

V. Slide14 TO FAITHFUL DISCIPLES (24-26) Living throughout Church History

A. Jesus speaks of discipleship & servanthood (learners/laborers) and persecution.

B. This section would apply to servants during any period of bible history.

1. It has special significance for His disciples today.
   a) We are His disciples. Our prayer should be, Lord, You be the needle & I’ll be the thread. I’ll follow right behind...wherever You lead.

C. Slide15a The Certainty of Persecution (24,25).

1. Just as He is persecuted, His disciples also will be.
2. To be Like his Teacher...Like his Master - Let this be our ambition in every way.
3. They may call us what they like, but they cannot make us evil.
   a) God was slandered in the garden of Eden. Christ was slandered on Calvary. How can we hope to escape?
4. Note, we are of His Household - what a privilege.

D. Slide15b The Confidence in Persecution (26) [see vs.28, can kill body but not soul]

1. In this next section (to the end of the ch.) Matthew will list several reasons why we must not be afraid to openly confess Christ.
   a) Note how many times do not fear shows up in this next section (vs.26,28,31).
2. Anticipate the Future and be not overwhelmed by the Present.
3. If you’re misrepresented...The Lord will right you before long.
4. A day is coming when All will be righted.

E. Slide16,17 A soldier dies twice, once when he dies and also when he is forgotten.