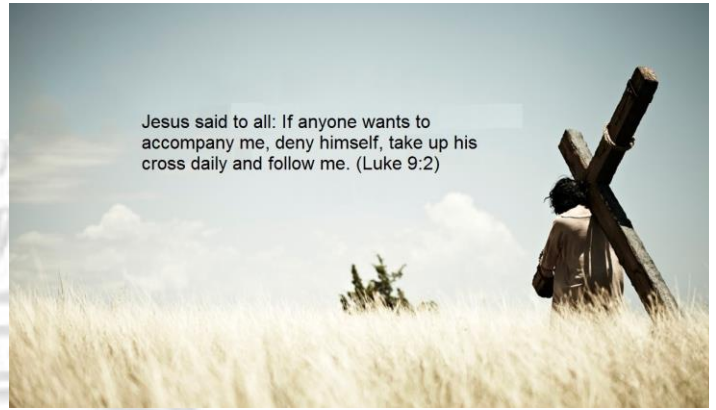


**(Food for thought)**

Gospel: Mathew 10: 37-42

## **“The Costly Business of Being a Disciple”**



**“T**he tenth chapter of the Gospel of Mathew is generally called the "Mission Discourse" or the "Apostolic Discourse" because within it we get to see how Jesus extends the mission that He received from His Father to His disciples. He outlines to his disciples what they can expect if they chose to follow Him; He tells them that they will encounter the same hostility He has encountered, and that they need to be aware of the high cost - as well as the rewards - of discipleship. Preaching the Good News will be hard work and it will be based on the simple value of service, of hospitality.

For a disciple of Christ, there is never a time when we cannot be a gift to others. God's love

is alive in us whenever we witness to our love for God by bringing peace and compassion to our neighbours; whenever we witness to the reconciling mercy of God in word and action; whenever we are peacemakers; and, whenever we encourage one another. Our God is with us. We may not have miraculous powers to heal, but all of us have the capacity to comfort and affirm people who may be hurting in some way. Whatever gifts we have, the gifts of listening and reassuring, the gifts of serving and volunteering – all these gifts have been given to us by the Lord to be given away to others. That's the true meaning of hospitality.

