

**LINCOLN COMMUNITY BIBLE CHURCH**  
**SERMON OUTLINE**  
**March 21<sup>st</sup>, 2021**  
**Matthew 10:37**

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**RECAP:** Last week, we looked at the price of being a Gospel witness. Christ is finishing up this Matthew chapter by not focusing on the method of evangelism, but the response we will receive.

**THESIS: God commands us to love Him in a worthy way, something only possible through Christ.**

**EXEGESIS: Matthew 10:37**

- See related passages; **Luke 9:57-62; Mark 10:23**. These illustrate the same demands from Christ.
- These statements require a few assumptions. Firstly: **Nothing can be loved and served more than Christ in our lives.**
- He is nowhere advocating for not loving your family. In fact, it's clearly assumed that you do in the text. What He cautions against here instead is, *do not love them more than Me*.
- The disciples were called in a context where they had to choose, even if it was temporary. **1<sup>st</sup> Cor. 9:5**.
- Two foundational principles exist for this to be true;
  - a) God rightly deserves our affection because He is our Creator, King, and Maker.
  - b) God genuinely deserves our affection because He is our Savior, and shows us love and mercy.
- Secondly; **Even if these statements are true, we are not worthy.** See **Mark 10:23**.
  - The rich young ruler is not worthy, even though by earthly standards he excels.
  - The disciples correctly realize just how high the “worthy” bar really is.
  - Jesus assures them that it is not dependent upon them.
- **Luke 14:25** still forces us to count the cost of being a disciple. It will cost us something. Start counting.

**CONCLUSION:**

- **We need grace and dependence upon His Holy Spirit to have this affection.**
- **Let's pray for the affection we need to give to the Lord, that He richly deserves.**