

TAKING IT HOME

Applying this message to everyday life

1. Have you ever encountered the wolves Jesus talked about in this passage? What did you learn from the encounter?
2. Apart from cutting off all relations, what could you do to avoid the wolves in your life?
3. Applying the Word of God to our lives requires us to get specific. Can you name the various wolves who are in your life?
4. We are to pray for one another (James 5:16). Take time to pray to be both shrewd and innocent as you encounter the wolves in your life.

The Heart of Opposition
#568 – Be Shrewd as Serpents
Matthew 10:6

GateWay Bible Church
August 13, 2017
Fred Hennes

Be Shrewd as Serpents

I am sending you out like sheep among wolves. Therefore be as shrewd as snakes and as innocent as doves. Matthew 10:6

Understanding this Command

It is impossible for a Christ-follower to ignore the _____

We will be _____

Sheep have no inherent strength to _____ themselves.

Sheep can overcome wolves by staying _____ to their shepherd and by _____ out when attacked.

Sent into a pack of wolves is _____, but we are not sent out _____.

God sends us among the wolves not to be _____, but to cause us to focus on _____.

We spiritually discern dangers through:

1. _____ to the Holy Spirit
2. Becoming lifelong _____ of God's Word.

A dove is a _____

An innocent dove is one who does not compromise _____

For every action, there is an equal and _____ reaction.

Make the _____ a consuming passion.

Getting-To-Know-Me Questions

Sharing time to get your group started

- A. What vacation or big trip (either as a child or as an adult) did you enjoy the most?

- B. Have you ever had close up and personal encounters with either sheep, snakes or doves? What do you remember about those encounters?

- C. If you were a rancher and could choose between raising sheep, cattle, pigs or goats, which would it be and why?

LIFE GROUP HOMEWORK

For the week of August 13, 2017

Quick Review

1. As you reflect on last week's sermon, what one principle or insight stands out as being particularly helpful, insightful or difficult to grasp?

DIGGING DEEPER

Jot down a brief answer to the following questions

2. The prophet Jeremiah faced both his own weakness and external "wolves: (Jeremiah 1:6-8). Stephen also faced a mob of ravening wolves (Acts 7:54-55). Read these passages then compare and contrast them to Matthew 10:6.

3. Read the Great Commission as found in Matthew 28:18-20. Paraphrase these verse in your own words.

4. Read 2 Corinthians 11:16-32. The Apostle Paul had a burning passion to fulfill Christ's Great Commission. Was his passion too far over the top or something that inspires you? Is his passion to be considered "normal" in the kingdom of God?