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# TRUE NORTH

FINDING YOUR LIFE HEADING



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@JerryGodsey

#Drowning



# DEALING WITH OPPOSITION

MATTHEW 10:16-33

#TrueNorth



## **Matthew 10:16-33**

**“Look, I am sending you out as sheep among wolves. So be as shrewd as snakes and harmless as doves. <sup>17</sup> But beware! For you will be handed over to the courts and will be flogged with whips in the synagogues. <sup>18</sup> You will stand trial before governors and kings because you are my followers. But this will be your opportunity to tell the rulers and other unbelievers about me. <sup>19</sup> When you are arrested, don’t worry about how to respond or what to say. God will give you the right words at the right time. <sup>20</sup> For it is not you who will be speaking—it will be the Spirit of your Father speaking through you.**

**<sup>21</sup> “A brother will betray his brother to death, a father will betray his own child, and children will rebel against their parents and cause them to be killed.**



## **Matthew 10:16-33**

**22 And all nations will hate you because you are my followers. But everyone who endures to the end will be saved. 23 When you are persecuted in one town, flee to the next. I tell you the truth, the Son of Man will return before you have reached all the towns of Israel.**

**24 “Students are not greater than their teacher, and slaves are not greater than their master. 25 Students are to be like their teacher, and slaves are to be like their master. And since I, the master of the household, have been called the prince of demons, the members of my household will be called by even worse names!**

**26 “But don’t be afraid of those who threaten you. For the time is coming when everything that is covered will be revealed, and all that is secret will be made known to all. 27 What I tell you now**



## **Matthew 10:16-33**

**in the darkness, shout abroad when daybreak comes. What I whisper in your ear, shout from the housetops for all to hear!**

**<sup>28</sup> “Don’t be afraid of those who want to kill your body; they cannot touch your soul. Fear only God, who can destroy both soul and body in hell. <sup>29</sup> What is the price of two sparrows—one copper coin? But not a single sparrow can fall to the ground without your Father knowing it. <sup>30</sup> And the very hairs on your head are all numbered. <sup>31</sup> So don’t be afraid; you are more valuable to God than a whole flock of sparrows.**

**<sup>32</sup> “Everyone who acknowledges me publicly here on earth, I will also acknowledge before my Father in heaven. <sup>33</sup> But everyone who denies me here on earth, I will also deny before my Father in heaven.**



**2 Timothy 3:12**

Yes, and everyone who wants to live a godly life in Christ Jesus will suffer persecution.





**Most opposition comes in the form of a personal attack**

**Opposition usually hits you where you're weak and/or defenseless.**



# BE SOFT-HEARTED, NOT SOFT HEADED

**Matthew 10:16**

“Look, I am sending you out as sheep among wolves.  
So be as shrewd as snakes and harmless as doves.”



# BE SOFT-HEARTED, NOT SOFT HEADED

## Matthew 22:18-21

But Jesus knew their evil motives. “You hypocrites!” he said. “Why are you trying to trap me? <sup>19</sup> Here, show me the coin used for the tax.” When they handed him a Roman coin, <sup>20</sup> he asked, “Whose picture and title are stamped on it?” <sup>21</sup> “Caesar’s,” they replied. “Well, then,” he said, “give to Caesar what belongs to Caesar, and give to God what belongs to God.”





# *Check Your Course*

*You have to be soft-hearted  
without being soft-headed.*



# BE SOFT-HEARTED, NOT SOFT HEADED

## Colossians 4:5

Live wisely among those who are not believers, and make the most of every opportunity.



# DON'T UNDERESTIMATE WHAT OTHERS ARE CAPABLE OF DOING

## **Matthew 10:17-18**

But beware! For you will be handed over to the courts and will be flogged with whips in the synagogues. 18 You will stand trial before governors and kings because you are my followers. But this will be your opportunity to tell the rulers and other unbelievers about me.



# DON'T UNDERESTIMATE WHAT OTHERS ARE CAPABLE OF DOING

## Matthew 10:21-22

<sup>21</sup> “A brother will betray his brother to death, a father will betray his own child, and children will rebel against their parents and cause them to be killed. <sup>22</sup> And all nations will hate you because you are my followers.





# *Check Your Course*

*When it comes to what others are capable of, don't be naive. Be street smart*





# BE SOFT-HEARTED, NOT SOFT HEADED

## Colossians 4:5

Live wisely among those who are not believers, and make the most of every opportunity.



# AVOID IT WHEN YOU CAN

**Matthew 10:23**

When you are persecuted in one town, flee to the next.



# AVOID IT WHEN YOU CAN

**I used to devote my time to trying to save the world; now I'm just trying to save my hide.**





# *Check Your Course*

*Don't fight unnecessary battles.*



# CLARIFY YOUR PRIORITIES

**We should follow in the footsteps of Jesus.**

**Matthew 10:24**

**Students are not greater than their teacher, and slaves are not greater than their master.**



# CLARIFY YOUR PRIORITIES

**We strive to please God and not men**

**Matthew 10:28**

**“Don’t be afraid of those who want to kill your body; they cannot touch your soul. Fear only God, who can destroy both soul and body in hell.**



# CLARIFY YOUR PRIORITIES

**We strive to please God and not men**

**"I don't know the secret to success, but I know the secret to failure is trying to please everybody."**



# CLARIFY YOUR PRIORITIES

**We strive to please God and not men**

**Galatians 1:10**

Obviously, I'm not trying to win the approval of people, but of God. If pleasing people were my goal, I would not be Christ's servant.





# CLARIFY YOUR PRIORITIES

**We should boldly speak out for Christ**

**Matthew 10:32-33**

“Everyone who acknowledges me publicly here on earth, I will also acknowledge before my Father in heaven. 33 But everyone who denies me here on earth, I will also deny before my Father in heaven.





## *Check Your Course*

*When you find yourself facing opposition, it is time to clarify your priorities, and make certain that God is at the top of the list.*



## Matthew 10:29-31

What is the price of two sparrows—one copper coin? But not a single sparrow can fall to the ground without your Father knowing it. <sup>30</sup> And the very hairs on your head are all numbered. <sup>31</sup> So don't be afraid; you are more valuable to God than a whole flock of sparrows.



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