

Thornbury Baptist Church
Small Group Discussion Questions

Talk Date: May 3rd 2026

Talk title: Welcoming Jesus in disguise!

Passage: Matthew 10:32-42

Speaker: David Lawrence

Discussion Questions

1. (vs32-33). What does it mean to 'acknowledge Jesus' here on earth? How have members of the group acknowledged him in this past week?

- What does it mean to 'deny' Jesus? In what circumstances might that happen?
- What are the consequences of acknowledging and denying Jesus (in vs 32,33), and how does that impact members of the group?

2. (vs34-37). Take time to pray for anyone in the group, or known to the group, whose faith in Jesus has caused division in their home.

- What advice would you give to someone who has just become a Christian and who shares a home with people who are not Christians?

3. (v39). What does it mean to 'cling to your life'?

- and what does it mean to 'give up your life for Jesus'?

4. (v40). What does this verse tell us about the unity of the believer with Jesus?

- In John 17:20-26 Jesus prays for all who will one day follow him. What does he pray and what does his prayer add to our understanding of verse 40 in our reading?
- How do people think we can grow in our appreciation of what it means for God to be in us, and for us to be in God (since both truths can be hard to understand and believe!)?

5. In the talk David illustrated verses 41-42 by referring to the parable of the sheep and goats in Matthew 25. Jesus rewards people who have never met him because of how they had treated his suffering disciples ("Truly I tell you, whatever you did for one of the least of these brothers and sisters of mine, you did for me.'). What does this tell us about:

- the nature of being a follower of Jesus?
- God's means of judging those who have never heard of him?
- the nature of God?

Takeaway

What is the main thing each person is taking away from this discussion?

Spend time praying with one another in the light of your discussion.