



# SPORTS IN FOCUS

*All THE KING'S MEN*

Matthew 10:1-42 • Lesson Five

## READY

- Jesus prayerfully chose twelve good men to be His followers and form the foundation for the church. If you had to pick people to plant a new church, what kinds of people would be advantageous to have on your team?

## SET

### Context of Matthew 10:1-42

Jesus did not call the twelve disciples (who became apostles) on the basis of their innate worthiness or personal capabilities or faithfulness, but solely on the basis of what He could make of them by His own power working through them. Following the list of the men the King selected, Matthew records Christ's words about the basic task of ministry and concludes with the cost of ministry.

### Keys to Text

*Workers for the Harvest:* Notice that Jesus called His disciples to pray for the workers (see 9:38), and then He called them to become worker. As they began to see the world as Christ sees it, looking out on lost humanity through their Lord's eyes and with His heart of compassion they also began to see that they themselves were called to go out and invite the lost into the Lord's kingdom. The believer who prays for God to send workers, but is unwilling to go himself, prays hypocritically.

## GO

### Read Matthew 10:1-42

1. What were Jesus' instructions to the Twelve before sending them out?
2. List the exciting and reassuring statements Jesus made to His disciples in this chapter.
3. What troubling and faith-stretching predictions about their mission did Christ make?
4. What impresses you about the men Jesus chose to be His representatives?
5. According to this passage, how does a servant of Christ act (vv.32-34)?
6. How does your Christian experience compare with the rigorous standards set forth by Christ in Matthew 10?
7. In what ways have you personally seen Christ "bring a sword" (v. 34), turning family members against each other?
8. How is your understanding of Jesus different as a result of Matthew 10?
9. What changes do you plan to implement in your sports and faith?

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Bobby Bowden won almost 400 college football games. Bowden made a stop in Omaha to speak at the Fellowship of Christian Athletes' annual Cornerstone Celebration. Bowden, 80, spoke to the crowd of more than 700 about his experiences coaching at Florida State where he often beat the Nebraska Cornhuskers. He emphasized the importance of leadership in the lives of young people. Most of his career, the athletes he coached were being raised by their mothers with the father being absent. The greatness of God's grace is seen in His choosing the undeserving to be His people and the unqualified to do His work. Coach Bowden said he developed into a leader for the Lord by simply making himself available to the Lord's work. It was never about his special leadership qualities. Instead, it has always been about his willingness to serve. Even today as a retired football coach, he speaks at more than 50 FCA meetings each year. God chooses to give sanctifying grace on those who believe in His son and by His own power to transform them into men and women of great usefulness. [www.nebraskafca.org](http://www.nebraskafca.org)