

16. How might our church's witness change if we took Jesus' words about welcoming others more seriously?
17. How do we understand Jesus' use of the word "reward" when we believe that all that we have, including our salvation, comes as unearned, undeserved grace (Romans 6:23)?
18. How does this passage balance God's grace with the recognition of faithful service?
19. What encouragement does this text offer to Christians who feel that their contributions are small or unnoticed?
20. If Jesus regards even a cup of cold water given in his name as significant, what small act of faithfulness might God be calling you to offer this week?

## Family Bible Study

6/28/2026



### Matthew 10:40-42

Jesus said, <sup>40</sup> "Whoever welcomes you welcomes me, and whoever welcomes me welcomes the one who sent me. <sup>41</sup> Whoever welcomes a prophet in the name of a prophet will receive a prophet's reward; and whoever welcomes a righteous person in the name of a righteous person will receive the reward of the righteous; <sup>42</sup> and whoever gives even a cup of cold water to one of these little ones in the name of a disciple-- truly I tell you, none of these will lose their reward."

## Questions to Wonder with Kids

Our reading from Matthew talks about our connection to Jesus. Jesus says that however people treat his followers, it's as if they are doing it to Jesus: "Whoever welcomes you welcomes me, and whoever welcomes me welcomes the one who sent me."

- I wonder what it means to "welcome Jesus"....
- How are we connected to Jesus? What does that mean about us and how we should act and think?
- Who does Jesus say people welcome one of his followers?
- What does Jesus say about even small acts of kindness, like offering a "cup of cold water" to someone?
- What do you think Jesus means when he says a person will not "lose their reward"?
- Has someone ever shown kindness to you when you needed it? How did it make you feel?
- What are some ways you can welcome someone who is new at school or church?
- What is one small thing you could do this week to help another person?
- I wonder why Jesus talks about giving a simple cup of water instead of something bigger...
- Can small acts of kindness make a big difference? Can you think of an example?
- Who might need a "cup of cold water" today—not just water, but help, friendship, or encouragement?
- Who is one person you can encourage, help, or befriend to show them the love of Jesus?

## Questions for Adults

1. Jesus says, "Whoever welcomes you welcomes me." What does this reveal about the relationship between Jesus and his disciples?
2. Why do you think Jesus connects receiving a disciple with receiving both himself and the Father?
3. What did it mean to welcome someone in Jesus' day (v40)? What behaviors and attitudes would characterize this welcoming? What does it mean today to "welcome Jesus"?
4. What does it mean to "welcome a prophet"? How did Israel historically treat prophets? See Matthew 23:29-37.
5. What is the "reward of the righteous" (v41)?
6. What distinctions, if any, do you see between a prophet, a righteous person, and "one of these little ones" (v42)?
7. What does this passage teach us about Christ's presence among his people?
8. How does this verse connect to the Parable of the Sheep and Goats (Matthew 25:31-45)?
9. Why might Jesus conclude a discourse about mission and persecution with promises about hospitality and reward?
10. Have you ever experienced hospitality or encouragement at a time when you were serving God? How did it affect you?
11. What simple acts of kindness from others have strengthened your faith over the years?
12. How does this passage challenge the idea that only large or dramatic acts matter to God?
13. In what practical ways can a church "welcome" those who serve Christ today?
14. Who are the "little ones" in our congregation or community—those who may be overlooked, vulnerable, or lacking influence?
15. What barriers make it difficult to show hospitality in modern life?