

THE HARD

SAYINGS

OF JESUS

Introduction: Wednesday, August 9

“You have to give up everything.”

Week of August 16 Mark 10:17-31

“You must love all people.”

Week of August 23 Matt. 15:10-28

“There is one unforgivable sin.”

Week of August 30 Matt. 12:22-31

“I have come to make war.”

Week of September 6 Matt. 10:34-39

“You must master your money.”

Week of September 13 Luke 16:1-13

Business Meeting on September 20

“You must be people of substance.”

Week of September 27 Mark 11:12-26

“There will be casualties.”

Week of October 4 John 11:1-37

“You must be perfect.”

Week of October 11 Matt. 5:2-20

**YOU HAVE TO GIVE UP
EVERYTHING.**

Quiet Time
Session One
Week of August 16

Read Matthew 5:1-12.

When you meet someone new, what are the first three things you tell them about yourself?

Of those three things, which of them are personal achievements and how important are they to your identity as an individual?

How do you define blessing? In other words, what do you think it means to be “blessed”?

In your own words, how would you describe Jesus’ definition of blessing?

Quiet Time
Session Two
Week of August 23

**YOU MUST LOVE
ALL PEOPLE.**

Read 1 John 3:17; Luke 10:25-37.

Is there any person that you would refuse help to if you saw them in need? Be honest.

Think of the most “unclean” place that you know. Would you go there to seek out an opportunity to help someone in need?

Have you ever felt like you have been passed over or refused something because of a difference of opinion, race, religion, etc? What did that feel like?

Think of your idea of what Jesus looks like. Describe your idea of Jesus below.

**THERE IS ONE
UNFORGIVABLE SIN.**

Quiet Time
Session Three
Week of August 30

Most people would agree that rules are a necessity. What need do rules meet in our lives?

Read Matthew 12:30-31.

How do you interpret what Jesus is saying here?

Read John 16:8.

Write down some synonyms for the word “conviction.” In your own words, describe what conviction is.

Quiet Time
Session Four
Week of September 6



Read these verses carefully. For each verse, complete the following sentence.

- | | |
|-------------------|-----------------|
| Romans 5:1-2 | Jesus is _____. |
| Romans 8:38-39 | Jesus is _____. |
| Philippians 4:6 | Jesus is _____. |
| Revelation 21:3-7 | Jesus is _____. |

Now read Luke 12:49-53. How does the Jesus depicted here differ from the Jesus described in the verses you read previously? How does this side of Jesus make you feel?

Think about these two sides of Jesus: peace-maker and conflict-starter. In your own words, what was Jesus' mission all about?

**YOU MUST MASTER
YOUR MONEY.**

Quiet Time
Session Five
Week of September 13

Read Luke 16:1-13

Who do you say is the good guy in this story? The bad guy?
Give reasons for each.

Does anything about this parable seem strange to you?

What does Jesus' words following this parable, verses
10-13, mean to you?

How does this parable fit with what you know about the
character of Jesus? How does it seem to contradict it?

Quiet Time
Session Six
Week of September 27

**YOU MUST BE PEOPLE
OF SUBSTANCE.**

Read Matthew 25:31-46.

What was the separation of the sheep
and the goats based on?

What's your definition of *fair*? Does the separation of the
sheep and goats seem fair to you?

Have you ever felt like Jesus' instructions were unfair?
How so? And if so, how do you deal with that?

Do you feel like all Christians are authentic in their faith?
How do you think that affects the world's view of
Christianity?

THERE WILL BE CASUALTIES.

Quiet Time
Session Seven
Week of October 4

What do you value most?

What is something that you think everyone should consider valuable?

What do you think is the most valuable thing in the universe?

What do you think Jesus values the most?

Read. John 11:1-37.

Have you ever felt like Jesus was waiting to act in your life? How did you deal with that feeling?

Do you think Jesus has a purpose for waiting sometimes?
“If it’s Your will, Lord...”

Quiet Time
Session Eight
Week of October 11



YOU MUST BE PERFECT.

Read Matthew 5:2-20.

How does our culture define “blessing?”
How do you define it?

What do you think makes a person “blessed”? What do you think God means when He calls someone “blessed”?

Who were the Pharisees? How is the church today like the Pharisees of those days?

Who do we compare ourselves to in order to determine our righteousness? Who should we compare ourselves to?



BE LIKE ME.