

**GOSPEL** of *Grace*  
FELLOWSHIP

**Matthew 10:40-42**  
**The Necessity of Receiving  
Christ's People**

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**We Must Receive Christ's Sent Ones**

**Matthew 10:40**  
He who receives you receives Me,  
and he who receives Me receives Him  
who sent Me.

Receives = "dechomai" – to warmly  
welcome and support.

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**Reception Leads to Reward**

**Matthew 10:41**  
He who receives a prophet in the name of  
a prophet shall receive a prophet's  
reward; and he who receives a righteous  
man in the name of a righteous man shall  
receive a righteous man's reward.

**Matthew 23:29**  
Woe to you, scribes and Pharisees,  
hypocrites! For you build the tombs of the  
prophets and adorn the monuments of  
the righteous,

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**Believers Must Be Treated Well**

**Matthew 10:42**  
And whoever in the name of a disciple  
gives to one of these little ones even a  
cup of cold water to drink, truly I say  
to you, he shall not lose his reward.

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**Applications**

1. We must know that those who  
reject Christ's apostles' words are  
rejecting Christ Himself.
2. We must understand that the  
mistreatment of the "little ones" is  
mistreatment of believers.
3. We should know that treating  
believers well is a sign of regenerate  
behavior.

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**Red Letter Christians?**

**RLC:** "Why did Jesus have to die? Was  
it to appease a wrathful God's  
demand for punishment? Does that  
mean Jesus died to save us from God?  
How could someone ever truly love or  
trust a God like that? How can that  
ever be called "Good News"? It's  
questions like these that make so  
many people want to have nothing to  
do with Christianity" (Derek Flood).

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### The Apostles Bear Christ's Words

1. Called (Rom. 1:1)
2. Eyewitnesses of resurrection (1 Cor. 9:1)
3. Did miraculous deeds (Heb. 2:3-4)
4. Instructed by Christ (Acts 1:21-22; Gal. 1:17-18)

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### The Apostles' Self-Awareness

#### 2 Peter 1:20-21

But know this first of all, that no prophecy of Scripture is *a matter* of one's own interpretation, 21 for no prophecy was ever made by an act of human will, but **men moved by the Holy Spirit spoke from God.**

#### 2 Peter 3:16

...as also in all *his letters*, speaking in them of these things, in which are some things hard to understand, which the untaught and unstable distort, as *they do also the rest of the Scriptures*, to their own destruction.

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### Who Are the Little Ones?

#### Matthew 18:6

but whoever causes one of **these little ones who believe in Me** to stumble, it would be better for him to have a heavy millstone hung around his neck, and to be drowned in the depth of the sea.

#### Matthew 25:40

The King will answer and say to them, 'Truly I say to you, to the extent that you did it **to one of these brothers of Mine, even the least of them**, you did it to Me.'

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### Sign of Regeneracy: Love for Believers

#### Matthew 24:45-46

Who then is the faithful and sensible slave whom his master put in charge of his household to give them their food at the proper time? 46 **Blessed is that slave whom his master finds so doing when he comes.**

#### Galatians 6:2

Bear one another's burdens, and thereby fulfill the law of Christ.

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