



Wolf Inside of Me – 9/19/2021

OVERVIEW

Biblical history shows us that it was “religious” people who first stirred up persecution of the early church. It also warns us that Jesus is sending us out on mission as “lambs among wolves.” Jeremy believes “the greatest threat to making authentic disciples of Jesus in America today is not the big bad wolf of shifting culture...and not outside the church, but from within.” It was true in Jesus’ day, and it is true today. How then will we recognize the wolves among us and how will we avoid allowing ourselves to be a wolf to someone who might be exploring their faith?

Scriptures: Luke 10:1-3; Matthew 7:15-20, 12:34, 23:33-34; Isaiah 53:7; 2 Timothy 2:14-18

APPLICATION

- Read Luke 10:1-3. The last verse says, “Go! I am sending you out like lambs among wolves.” Why would Jesus knowingly send us out to the wolves?
- How have you seen non-believers turned off to the gospel by how “religious” people behave?
- Matthew 7:16 says, “By their fruit you will recognize them.” Reflect on your own life. What is the fruit (read Galatians 5:22-23) that people see in you?
- As you look at that list, are there any areas (any bad fruit) in your life that might not accurately represent Jesus to others around you? Where is the wolf inside of you?
- **TAKE ACTION:** This week go on an inward wolf-hunt. Ask God to reveal areas where your fruit might be rotting, and you may not be representing the Lamb of God accurately. He sends us out to the harvest to spread the good news of Jesus’ death and resurrection -- not our own or the world’s agenda.