Sample Responses to Matthew 10:1–11:1 | Kelsie Ellison and Ann Lankford

**STRUCTURE**

*From Ann:*

I.  (10: 1-4) Jesus calls to himself and shares his authority with twelve apostles.

II. Jesus sends out the apostles with instructions (10:5-42)
   a. Jesus gives particulars of their calling/mission on this journey (10:5-8)
      i. (10:5,6) Where to go: They are to go not to Gentiles but to the “lost sheep of Israel”
      ii. (10:7) What to say: Kingdom of heaven is at hand
      iii. (10:8) What to do: Heal, raise the dead, cleanse, cast out demons.
   b. Jesus sets expectations for apostles of how they will be treated, reminding them that hardship is coming but their life will not be wasted (10:9-42)
      i. Jesus anticipates some that Israelites will see the coming of the kingdom as prophesied; some will warmly receive the apostles and their message, and some will reject them. There is peace or judgement awaiting them respectively. (10:9-15)
      ii. Jesus exhorts them to be wise and blameless in the midst of their suffering. (10:16)
      iii. Jesus anticipates the message will cause division and enmity toward apostles and those who believe, even division from their closest family members. (10:17-18, 21-23)
         1. When this happens, you will be given words to say by the Spirit. (10:19-20)
      iv. All of this is to be expected and is NOT an indication of any lacking in the Father’s care. Jesus was and will be treated similarly. You should not fear man, but fear God. (10:24-33)
      v. Jesus reiterates that the message he brings will cause division and that following Christ must come even at the cost of losing family.
      vi. Jesus shows that, though it is costly, the wise life is one given up for the sake of the kingdom.
   v. Those who rightly receive the apostles as representatives of Jesus and of the Father will be rewarded.

III. Jesus continues on his mission of teaching and preaching. (11:1)

*From Kelsie:*

10:1-15 Jesus gives his disciples authority and instruction before sending them out
10:16-25 Jesus warns his disciples of the persecution that results from following him
10:26-33 Jesus his disciples not to fear man but him
10:34-42 Jesus shares the cost and reward of following him
11:1 Jesus sends out his disciples

**UNIFYING-THEME SENTENCE**

*From Ann:* Jesus is calling us to be part of sharing his kingdom message and his authority, knowing the message may be rejected by some and welcomed by others, but that those who wisely follow in spite of hardship and discord will be rewarded.

*From Kelsie:* Jesus bestows his authority to preach, teach and heal, on to his disciples and gives them instruction and warnings before sending them out but promises God will speak through them and cares for them.

**AUTHOR’S-AIM SENTENCE**

*From Ann:* While bringing awareness that following Jesus and participating in the work he has given us authority to do may bring division and persecution, Matthew appeals to us that those who take up the cross of following Jesus are known and seen by the Father and will gain the reward of peace and find true life.

*From Kelsie:* Matthew aims to exhort readers to respond to Jesus commission, warning and promises with obedience and faith, fully relying on God to sustain them as they advance God’s kingdom.