

# God-Fearing People

by K.P. Yohannan

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*God-fearing people are willing to walk away from everything to follow Jesus, demonstrating the importance of prioritizing our relationship with Him.*

**Scripture:** Matthew 10:32

**Topics:** "Commitment to Christ", "Faith Under Persecution"

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## Description

K.P. Yohannan shares the inspiring story of 50 God-fearing families in India who embraced Christianity and faced persecution from their village chief. Despite being given an ultimatum to either pay a penalty or deny Christ, these new believers chose to leave their homes rather than abandon their faith. Their unwavering commitment to Jesus, despite their lack of theological knowledge and resources, exemplifies true devotion and the transformative power of the Gospel. Yohannan reflects on their courage and the profound impact of their decision to follow Christ, highlighting that their motivation was solely their love for Jesus.

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## Transcript

I had never heard anything like it.

In a village on the Gujarat-Madhya Pradesh border in India, 50 families came to know the Lord within a short period of time. These were very simple but God-fearing people who heard the Gospel and responded to Jesus--Jesus who forgave their sins and set them free from bondage.

In the midst of their celebration and joy, they received an ultimatum. Their village chief and a band of others rounded up these 50 families and told them that they could no longer live in the village.

These new Christians hurried to pack their tattered clothes, pots and pans and other few belongings, and then they walked away from everything they had known. Like refugees from a war zone, they trudged out of the village, along with the elderly who could hardly walk, little children and pregnant women.

As they were leaving, the village chief told them that they would be allowed back only on two conditions: payment of a 500-rupee penalty per family, plus each would have to deny Christ.

But not one of them returned. They walked until they finally crossed over the border into Madhya Pradesh, finding shelter under trees in the jungle.

I thought about these people and the suffering and hardship they went through just to survive and find a place to settle down. They were so new to the faith. None of them had any theological background or had had a chance to attend seminars, retreats or Bible studies.

They had never even heard about some of the most elementary truths of the Bible, much less complex issues such as eschatology with its pre-, mid- or post-trib viewpoints. I doubt that any of them knew the books of the Bible. In fact, most of them were illiterate.

What made them willing to walk away from their huts, fields, friends and relatives?

If you asked them, this is what they would tell you: "We are walking away because of one reason--Jesus."

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Source: <https://sermonindex.net/speakers/kp-yohannan/god-fearing-people/>

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