

Study Guide for March 25<sup>th</sup>, 2001. Following Jesus - Luke 10:1-16: Guidelines for Service.

1. Recall some project you completed for which you were given **good** directions. Compare it to a time you received **poor** instructions. What was the difference?

Jesus, aware that his earthly ministry is drawing to a close (Luke 9:51), makes a concerted effort to spread the good news to many villages. Through the preparation of the 72 (the number **72** probably represents **the nations**), Jesus will call many to faith as he travels to Jerusalem. The instructions given to those ministers have relevance for us as we seek to be agents of spreading the gospel today.

2. Realities of Service for Christ: Luke 10:1-4

- A. What benefit comes from sending out the disciples in pairs? How is that applicable today?
- B. Jesus tells the disciples to pray for more workers. Why? (see also Matt. 9:35-38)
- C. What does the image **lambs among wolves** convey? What should we and the disciples expect?
- D. This was an urgent assignment (“Do not greet anyone on the road”) for which Jesus called them to place complete trust in God (“Do not take . . .”). In what ways do you need to regain a sense of urgency and trust that God will provide as you seek to be faithful to the call upon your life?

3. Receiving (and giving) Hospitality for Christ: Luke 10:5-7

- A. Imagine hosting a missionary for a few nights. How would it benefit you and your family?
- B. Why do you think Jesus told the disciples to **stay in (one) house** and not move around?
- C. Where are you in danger of spending too much time and energy securing temporal comfort? Has this become a hindrance to your usefulness for Christ and spreading his gospel?
- D. Jesus said, “The worker deserves his wages.” This statement (or concept) is repeated by Paul in I Cor. 9:14, & I Tim 5:18 and by John in 3 John 5-7. What should we learn from it?

4. Responses to Christ’s Messengers: Luke 10:8-12

A pious Jew, on leaving Gentile territory, would remove the dust from his feet and clothes of that pagan land. He was disassociating himself from the pollution of those lands and the judgment in store for them.

- A. What would it mean for the disciples to perform this action to Jewish villages that rejected them?
- B. What were the disciples to do and say in villages that welcomed them? What could be expected?

5. Regret for Failure to Repent: Luke 10:13-15

- A. Tyre and Sidon were known for \_\_\_? (Is. 23) Why are they better off than Korazin & Bethsaida?
- B. What is predicted for Capernaum? (see Is. 14:12-15) Why?

6. Reception and Rejection:

Jesus instructs his disciples that sharing the gospel will generate two, opposite, responses. Compare Lk. 10:16 with Paul’s words in II Cor. 2:15-16. Now rededicate yourself to be a messenger of Christ.