
1 After this the Lord appointed seventy-two others and sent them two by two ahead of him to every town and place where he was about to go. 2 He told them, “The harvest is plentiful, but the workers are few. Ask the Lord of the harvest, therefore, to send out workers into his harvest field. 3 Go! I am sending you out like lambs among wolves. 4 Do not take a purse or bag or sandals; and do not greet anyone on the road. 5 “When you enter a house, first say, ‘Peace to this house.’ 6 If someone who promotes peace is there, your peace will rest on them; if not, it will return to you. 7 Stay there, eating and drinking whatever they give you, for the worker deserves his wages. Do not move around from house to house. 8 “When you enter a town and are welcomed, eat what is offered to you. 9 Heal the sick who are there and tell them, ‘The kingdom of God has come near to you.’ 10 But when you enter a town and are not welcomed, go into its streets and say, 11 ‘Even the dust of your town we wipe from our feet as a warning to you. Yet be sure of this: The kingdom of God has come near.’ 12 I tell you, it will be more bearable on that day for Sodom than for that town. 13 “Woe to you, Chorazin! Woe to you, Bethsaida! For if the miracles that were performed in you had been performed in Tyre and Sidon, they would have repented long ago, sitting in sackcloth and ashes. 14 But it will be more bearable for Tyre and Sidon at the judgment than for you. 15 And you, Capernaum, will you be lifted to the heavens? No, you will go down to Hades. 16 “Whoever listens to you listens to me; whoever rejects you rejects me; but whoever rejects me rejects him who sent me.” 17 The seventy-two returned with joy and said, “Lord, even the demons submit to us in your name.” 18 He replied, “I saw Satan fall like lightning from heaven. 19 I have given you authority to trample on snakes and scorpions and to overcome all the power of the enemy; nothing will harm you. 20 However, do not rejoice that the spirits submit to you, but rejoice that your names are written in heaven.” 21 At that time Jesus, full of joy through the Holy Spirit, said, “I praise you, Father, Lord of heaven and earth, because you have hidden these things from the wise and learned, and revealed them to little children. Yes, Father, for this is what you were pleased to do. 22 “All things have been committed to me by my Father. No one knows who the Son is except the Father, and no one knows who the Father is except the Son and those to whom the Son chooses to reveal him.” 23 Then he turned to his disciples and said privately, “Blessed are the eyes that see what you see. 24 For I tell you that many prophets and kings wanted to see what you see but did not see it, and to hear what you hear but did not hear it.”
Bible Study Guide
Making Community

Introduce

Luke’s writing explores the expansive mission of the diverse kingdom community created by Jesus. In Luke 9:51, Jesus “resolutely” sets out toward Jerusalem, where he knows he will give his life for the world. The rest of chapter nine shows Jesus challenging three men to consider the cost of joining his kingdom, and anticipation is building over what it really means to follow Jesus.

Ministry Trip

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Discuss

1. **How did Jesus prepare the 72 (vv. 1-16) and what does it reveal about him?**
   List the teaching points and commands that Jesus gives the community as he sets up their ministry trip in verses 1-16. These instructions and expectations would have created vulnerable dependence on one another, on the people they would meet, and on God. What do you think Jesus wants to reveal about himself and his purposes by preparing the 72 in this way?

2. **Why does Jesus rejoice (v. 21)? What does he want his followers to know and do next?**
   When the followers return, Jesus helps them understand the spiritual significance of what they had seen and experienced. Why does Jesus burst into praise and prayer in verse 21? Through this ministry experience, what do you think Jesus wants his followers to know and do as they continue toward Jerusalem with him?

Apply

1. **Thank God and invite healing.**
   Jesus prepares his followers to expect that ministry together will be both amazing and difficult. If you have experienced community created by ministering together, what was that like for you? Thank God for the joys, and invite God to heal any hurts. If ministry community is new for you, ask the Holy Spirit to give you opportunities to participate.

2. **Follow Jesus communally and commit to praying together.**
   Jesus leads his followers to ask God for more ministry workers (v. 2), tell people about the kingdom of God (v. 9), mourn over those who are unrepentant (v. 13), and rejoice in their own salvation (v. 20). How do these practices impact your perspective of what it means to follow Jesus? How could your ministry community commit to praying and doing these things together?

Conclude

Pray with each other.

For tips on leading a small group online, [watch this](#)!