

Following Jesus - The Life of a Disciple - Part 28

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Lesson 28 - Witness of 72 and Eternal Life

Background:

In this chapter of Luke's gospel, Jesus sends out 72 of His followers into the places and cities where He was planning to visit. Jesus talks about a great harvest and a lack of workers to bring in the harvest. Later, Jesus meets with a religious lawyer and discusses eternal life with him. This leads Jesus to share the famous story about the Good Samaritan.

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Scripture Passage:

Read: [Luke 10:1-37](#)

Read the Following Quote:

"Eternity is not something that begins after you are dead. It is going on all the time. We are in it now."

[Charlotte Perkins Gilman.](#)

Question:

Do you agree with this quote? What do you think eternity is? Is it important to think about eternal life?

Scripture Passage:

Now answer the questions based on [Luke 10:1-20](#)

Jesus Sends Out the Seventy-Two

1. The passage states that Jesus sent out 72 disciples. Does that surprise you? What does it tell you about the size of Jesus' group of followers?

2. Jesus talks about a harvest in verse 2. What do you think He means? Is this verse still relevant today?

3. What specific instructions does Jesus give His followers in verse 2 and 3? Should we send out missionaries like this today?

4. What differences do you see between the houses and towns in verses 5 and 7 with those in verses 8-15?

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5. What does Jesus say about acceptance and rejection? How should we react today if people respond positively or negatively when we share the gospel?

6. Describe the report that the disciples gave when they returned. Then consider Jesus' response. What do you think He means? (verses 18-20)

[Read Luke 10:21-24](#)

Prayer of Thanksgiving

7. Why do you think Jesus offered up a prayer at this point? What can we learn from this? Why are some people blessed and what is the blessing?

The Most Important Commandment

Read [Luke 10:25-29](#)

8. Who asked Jesus a question about eternal life? Why do you think He did that? Do you think that people today are still interested in eternal life? Why?

9. Where did Jesus suggest the man could find the answer? What would you suggest a "seeker" should read today?

10. Dissect the answer the man gave. Why are each of these things important? Does Jesus agree with the man's answer?

11. This event is also recorded in Matthew 22:34-40 and Mark 12:28-34. What is different in these two passages? Is this important? What should we learn from the story that is important today when we are sharing our faith?

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Read [Luke 10:30-37](#)

12. How does this story connect with the previous section about eternal life?

13. Answer the following statements True or False based on this final section

- a. A Samaritan was travelling from Jerusalem to Jericho
- b. A Jewish man was attacked by Samaritans
- c. Two men ignored the wounded man
- d. A third man helped the wounded man by calling an ambulance
- e. Jesus told the crowd that the third man was a good neighbour, and we should do the same thing.

Discuss:

How important is it to get involved in today's harvest? How are you involved? How would you like to get involved? Describe our "neighbour." What is the relationship between eternal life, the harvest and being a good neighbour?

Suggested Prayer: *Dear Lord, help us to love all sinners and hate all sin. Teach us how to be involved in your great harvest. Bless us with opportunities to share our faith with those who you bring into our lives. Show us how to be "good neighbours" even to those who we might think are our enemies. Amen*

For Further Reading:

[What is the Greatest Commandment?](#)

[5 Ways to Have a Personal Harvest of Souls](#)

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