

The Seventy Disciples Are Sent Out By Christ

LUKE 10: 1 – 12

¹ [†] After these things the Lord appointed other seventy also, and sent them two and two before his face into every city and place, whither he himself would come. ² Therefore said he unto them, The harvest truly *is* great, but the labourers *are* few: pray ye therefore the Lord of the harvest, that he would send forth labourers into his harvest. ³ Go your ways: behold, I send you forth as lambs among wolves. ⁴ Carry neither purse, nor scrip, nor shoes: and salute no man by the way. ⁵ And into whatsoever house ye enter, first say, Peace *be* to this house. ⁶ And if the son of peace be there, your peace shall rest upon it: if not, it shall turn to you again. ⁷ And in the same house remain, eating and drinking such things as they give: for the labourer is worthy of his hire. Go not from house to house. ⁸ And into whatsoever city ye enter, and they receive you, eat such things as are set before you: ⁹ And heal the sick that are therein, and say unto them, The kingdom of God is come nigh unto you. ¹⁰ But into whatsoever city ye enter, and they receive you not, go your ways out into the streets of the same, and say, ¹¹ Even the very dust of your city, which cleaveth on us, we do wipe off against you: notwithstanding be ye sure of this, that the kingdom of God is come nigh unto you. ¹² But I say unto you, that it shall be more tolerable in that day for Sodom, than for that city.

¹ Later the Master selected seventy and sent them ahead of him in pairs to every town and place where he intended to go.

² He gave them this charge: “What a huge harvest! And how few the harvest hands. So on your knees; ask the God of the Harvest to send harvest hands.

³ “On your way! But be careful—this is hazardous work. You’re like lambs in a wolf pack.

⁴ “Travel light. Comb and toothbrush and no extra luggage. “Don’t loiter and make small talk with everyone you meet along the way.

[†] A Greek word occurs that is not directly translated in the *King James Version*.

Greek Strongs: 1161

¹ *The Holy Bible : King James Version*. electronic ed. of the 1769 edition of the 1611 Authorized Version. Bellingham WA : Logos Research Systems, Inc., 1995, S. Lk 10:1-12

5 “When you enter a home, greet the family, ‘Peace.’
6 If your greeting is received, then it’s a good place to stay. But if it’s not received, take it back and get out. Don’t impose yourself.
7 “Stay at one home, taking your meals there, for a worker deserves three square meals. Don’t move from house to house, looking for the best cook in town.
8 “When you enter a town and are received, eat what they set before you,
9 heal anyone who is sick, and tell them, ‘God’s kingdom is right on your doorstep!’
10 “When you enter a town and are not received, go out in the street and say,
11 ‘The only thing we got from you is the dirt on our feet, and we’re giving it back. Did you have any idea that God’s kingdom was right on your doorstep?’
12 Sodom will have it better on Judgment Day than the town that rejects you.

The Message

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This is the only account in the Gospel whereby Jesus sends out seventy disciples. This action is similar to the one recorded in Matthew 10, where Jesus commissioned the twelve disciples. There are several instructions given by Jesus to the seventy that are powerful principles for the believers and followers of Christ today.

When God sends us out on an assignment, remember the following:

Partnership (1)

There is great value in working together. We should not take for granted those that God puts in our path to do His work for that season. Jesus made this assignment realizing that we have a need for mutual help, comfort and competent testimony.

Prayer (2)

² *The Holy Bible : King James Version*. electronic ed. of the 1769 edition of the 1611 Authorized Version. Bellingham WA : Logos Research Systems, Inc., 1995, S. Lk 8:1-40

We are admonished throughout scripture to pray. We see prayer in both the Old and New Testaments. Even Jesus lived a life of prayer before the disciples. Since we can tell God anything(Philippians 4:6), there is nothing wrong with talking or praying to God about those that work with us in the marketplace, live in our neighborhood or worship with us. It is also important to pray for laborers or people that sincerely want to do the work of spreading the gospel. There is a difference between a laborer and an observer. One watches and the other gets the job done. This is why we need to pray for laborers in this harvest.

Hostile Environment (3)

We cannot expect to be treated royally when sent on an assignment by God. There are moments of joy but it is not wise to think that we are walking into places where there is 100% acceptance. In many parts of the world today there is persecution and even death to those that profess the name of Jesus. Outwardly we appear as defenseless lambs among wolves. But we have all power internally through Jesus Christ our Lord.

No Personal Comforts (4a)

Money, food and shoes are personal comfort items that symbolize poverty. This is not to suggest that we do not have a need for any of those things. God doesn't want those things to have us or keep us from doing His will. It is important to know that when we are on Godly assignments, we are spiritually rich and that God will supply all of our need.

Time Management (4b)

Traditionally, greetings in the Eastern culture would be long and ceremoniously done. We should not waste time and give way to distractions from doing the Lord's work. As the disciples were instructed then, so are we who bear the name of Jesus responsible for spreading the gospel without giving lip service. Any actions that take away from maximizing our time in doing God's will should be examined and curbed.

Hospitality (5-9)

It has been said, where God guides, He provides. On the assignment God has for us, there will be provision, comfort and peace in knowing that we are doing God's will. However, the hospitality or love received from those along the way should not cause us to forget to our assignment. We must remember to let Christ be seen in us and glorify God.

Rejection (10 -12)

Rejection is a normal part of being a disciple. Jesus was rejected by His own creation. On our assignments, rejection is often experienced. But that is only a sign that we are right on course. If humankind rejects us when doing God's perfect will, it's alright. But if God rejects us, there is a serious problem. If we are rejected along the way, let's shake the dust off of our feet and move on. Maybe our job is done and God will send someone else to finish it up. Just know that God has another assignment waiting for us.