



Engaging to Bring Hope

Luke 10:1-9

"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." Luke 10:2

Main Point: Believers everywhere are called to care for others, and although it is not easy, the world is in desperate need of hope that we can bring through caring.

Introduction: Use the following questions to introduce the topic of discussion -

When has someone gone above and beyond to care for you? How did this make you feel?

When was it difficult to care for someone but you did it anyway? Did your perception of that person change?

Have a Volunteer Read Luke 2:1-9.

Much like the disciples in our text, it is our job as a church to prepare people to meet Jesus by filling them with a message of hope in Him. One of the best ways we can do that is by caring for and serving our community. Jesus knew it was easy to say all of the right, religious things, but much harder to demonstrate those teachings. If we want to see people's lives changed by the Gospel we need to know a couple things about demonstrating care to them.

The first thing we need to know about caring is **WE'RE CALLED TO CARE.** (v. 1-2)

What did Jesus call his followers to do? Why did he ask this of them?

How has love of routine or comfort prevented you from answering the call to care for others?

Read the story of Jesus healing a demonized woman in **Luke 13:10-17**. What thoughts or traditions did Jesus squash in order to care for this woman? Based on the people's response, would our church lose or gain favor for the same behavior?

What stigmas do we need to overcome as a church to care for others?

The second thing to know about caring is **CARING ISN'T EASY.** (v. 2-3)

What does Jesus say in verse 2 that indicates they have a difficult task ahead? How do we face the same problem today?

Jesus says, "Ask the Lord of the harvest..." What does this tell us about our approach to caring for people? What does 1 Thessalonians 5:16-18 say about our prayer life?

Read Ecclesiastes 4:9-10 and discuss why Jesus may have instructed them to go two by two. How could this benefit us today when caring for someone or carrying a message of hope to them?

The final thing to know is **CARING IS AN URGENT MISSION.** (v. 4-9)

Describe a time when you were on an urgent mission. Did you let anything get in your way of accomplishing your task?

Jesus was sending his followers on an urgent mission. Why do you suppose it was important they not speak to anybody on their journey?

Jesus knew he didn't have much time and this may be his last chance to visit and share the truth. Who in your life needs urgently to hear the message of peace and hope that Jesus wishes to promote? What distractions or hindrances do you need to eliminate to do so?

Pray:

As you close your time together pray over your group that God would use them as workers being sent out for the harvest. Ask God to cover them with protection and that they would go to spread a message of peace, healing, and caring. Pray that the Holy Spirit would place an urgency in your hearts to care for others and lead them to the Great Shepherd who cares the most.

Connect:

Call the church office (803.419.0989) or email beki@blythewoodvillage.com to see where you can get plugged into Care Ministry today!