

Home Group Discussion Questions 12th March 2017

Read: Luke 10: 1-24

This passage will ring bells as it has many parallels in the first three Gospels (e.g. Matthew 9: 37 -10:16) but in its combination of themes this passage is unique to the Gospels. If Luke 9 has portrayed the disciples in a somewhat negative light this passage, in contrast, is full of joy and confidence.

1. As you read this passage what is the overall 'atmosphere' it creates for you? Is it one of urgency...or confidence...or seriousness ...or hopeful opportunity ...or what?
2. The sending out of 72 *others* v.1 (i.e. in addition to the Twelve) shows what a strong base of followers Jesus had attracted. These 72 are then asked to pray for more workers! (v.2) How do you envisage all these disciples following Jesus in life on a day to day basis – had they all given up their jobs etc?
3. The key theme of this passage is that Jesus is sending out the 72 as **representatives** of his. What does this entail according to this passage?
4. What is the significance today of v.3–8 for our Christian witness?
5. What was the main remit of these 72 and what does it mean for the main remit of our witness for Christ?
6. When the 72 returned to Jesus he reported he had seen a vision (v.18-19). What is the significance of this vision for us?
7. More important than any mission success was that their names 'were written in heaven'. In what ways are we tempted to define ourselves by achievement rather than our security in God?
8. What exactly was it that these disciples were seeing and hearing in Jesus that the O.T. characters did not see and hear?

Pray for: our frontlines and a deeper awareness of our being the very representatives of Jesus.

