

Sermon-Based Discussion Guide for Home Groups

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SCRIPTURE

Luke 9:1-3, 6

¹ When Jesus had called the Twelve together, he gave them power and authority to drive out all demons and to cure diseases, ² and he sent them out to proclaim the kingdom of God and to heal the sick. ³ He told them: "Take nothing for the journey—no staff, no bag, no bread, no money, no extra shirt.

⁶ So they set out and went from village to village, proclaiming the good news and healing people everywhere.

ENGAGE

What do you think most Americans believe that they have to do in order for God to be happy with their lives? Why?

DISCUSS

1. Read the focus passage for today. We read that Jesus gave them power and authority. He told them to go preach and heal and cast out demons. After two years with Jesus, do you think the disciples were ready for this?
2. Do you usually think of the disciples as spiritual giants or as common men? Think through the gospel accounts and see what evidence you have to support your view?
3. Why do you think Jesus instructed them to take nothing? How would we function in a mode that trusts only in Christ?
4. We all tend to want the easy job or handing out bulletins every other week. What do you think has happened in the lives of people who volunteer to tell people about Christ or go to Africa on a mission trip?
5. Do you think God's "Plan A" is to do more with church leaders or with the common man? Who is more effective at spreading the gospel?
6. How would you evaluate your commitment to Christ today? Was there a time in your life that you moved from "showing up" to "stepping up"? What keeps people from making those radical steps to obedience at any cost?

7. Why do you think God's plan is to use weak, vulnerable people to share His word with a lost world?

YOUR NEXT STEP

Read 2 Corinthians 2:18

And all of this is a gift from God, who brought us back to himself through Christ. And God has given us this task of reconciling people to him.

What can you do this week to be a part of stepping up your obedience in sharing Christ to a lost world?

CHILDREN'S TIME

1. Read the Biblical passage. Would you be scared if you were the disciples?
2. Who do you think the disciples were more like—your pastor or you? Do you know what the disciples did for a living?
3. If God sent these men out to do His work, do you think He expects us to do his work?
4. Read 2 Corinthians 2:18. "And all of this is a gift from God, who brought us back to himself through Christ. And God has given us this task of reconciling people to him." (Explain this verse and show that reconciliation means bringing people together.)
5. Close with a challenge for children to pray for the lost and tell the lost about Jesus.

OTHER PASSAGES

Luke 9:11, 12, 37

Luke 10:1