



MESSAGE

STUDY GUIDE

GROUP MATERIAL

SONGS

Community Group Material:

Bible Reading: Luke 11:27-36 (CSB)

Luke 10:1-20 CSB

After this, the Lord appointed seventy-two others, and he sent them ahead of him in pairs to every town and place where he himself was about to go. **2** He told them, “The harvest is abundant, but the workers are few. Therefore, pray to the Lord of the harvest to send out workers into his harvest. **3** Now go; I’m sending you out like lambs among wolves. **4** Don’t carry a money-bag, traveling bag, or sandals; don’t greet anyone along the road. **5** Whatever house you enter, first say, ‘Peace to this household.’ **6** If a person of peace is there, your peace will rest on him; but if not, it will return to you. **7** Remain in the same house, eating and drinking what they offer, for the worker is worthy of his wages. Don’t move from house to house. **8** When you enter any town, and they welcome you, eat the things set before you. **9** Heal the sick who are there, and tell them, ‘The kingdom of God has come near you.’ **10** When you enter any town, and they don’t welcome you, go out into its streets and say, **11** ‘We are wiping off even the dust of your town that clings to our feet as a witness against you. Know this for certain: The kingdom of God has come near.’ **12** I tell you, on that day it will be more tolerable for Sodom than for that town.

13 “Woe to you, Chorazin! Woe to you, Bethsaida! For if the miracles that were done in you had been done in Tyre and Sidon, they would have repented long ago, sitting in sackcloth and ashes. **14** But it will be more tolerable for Tyre and Sidon at the judgment than for you. **15** And you, Capernaum, will you be exalted to heaven? No, you will go down to Hades. **16** Whoever listens to you listens to me. Whoever rejects you rejects me. And whoever rejects me rejects the one who sent me.”

17 The seventy-two returned with joy, saying, “Lord, even the demons submit to us in your name.” **18** He said to them, “I watched Satan fall from heaven like lightning. **19** Look, I have given you the authority to trample on snakes and scorpions and over all the power of the enemy; nothing at all

will harm you. **20** However, don't rejoice that the spirits submit to you, but rejoice that your names are written in heaven."

Sermon Summary

Jesus sent out the 72 to reach everyone, not just the house of Israel as he did when he sent out the 12 in Luke 9. This shows his desire to reach everyone with the message of the kingdom of God. He sends them out indicating there is an abundant harvest to be reaped. The 72 are to go with a message of peace to a household. If they respond with peace that indicates they are receptive to the message of the kingdom. Some will reject the message which means they reject the message as well as the messenger and God. When the 72 return from their mission, they are joyful because the demons submitted to them in Jesus' name. However, Jesus tells them not to rejoice because of what they did but that their names are written in heaven. Plus, he provides a cosmic perspective – "I was watching Satan fall from heaven like lightning."

Small Group Discussion

1. Jesus sent the 72 out without any regional restriction compared with when he sent out the 12 in Matthew 10:5-6. What does this indicate about the spreading of the kingdom of God?
2. What does the saying "Peace to this household" mean and how would you express it today?
3. Jesus gives them instructions about how to handle rejection. Read verse 11. How do you handle rejection and how do you think we should handle rejection? What does "wiping off the dust from your feet" mean?
4. What are the implications of the word they are to say to those who reject them " Know this for certain: The kingdom of God has come near"?
5. How do you understand the phrase "Woe to you..." that is spoken about the cities that reject the message of the kingdom? What should be the attitude of our hearts?
6. Jesus said "I watched Satan fall from heaven like lightning." What prompts him to say this? What is the significance of this word?
7. Jesus said to the 72 " don't rejoice that the spirits submit to you, but rejoice that your names are written in heaven." Why should they not rejoice that the spirits submit to them?
8. What does "your names are written in heaven" mean? Why should we rejoice in this?

Pray:

1. That we would learn how to reach people with the message of the kingdom of God.
2. For the needs of your group members.