



THE GOSPEL ACCORDING TO LUKE

LESSON 9 - STUDY QUESTIONS

LUKE 10:1-11:4

DAY ONE

1. What idea from last week's lesson (Lesson 8, Chapter 9) helped you in your prayer life?

Read Luke 10:1-12

2a. In this week's lesson and from this point on Jesus was headed toward Jerusalem, where He would give up His life. Having already sent out 12 disciples to proclaim the kingdom of God and to heal (chapter 9), today in Chapter 10 Jesus appointed 70 "others." Where and in what manner did He send them (verse 1)?

THINK: The number 70 is significant in the Old Testament. It is the number of Gentile nations listed in Genesis 10 and 11. In addition, it is the number of elders Moses chose to help him lead Israel. Assuming there is a connection, consider why Jesus would want to send out exactly 70 disciples.

b. Jesus told them that "The harvest is plentiful, but the laborers are few." What prayer did Jesus suggest for them in verse 2?

3. Jesus told the disciples that He was sending them "as lambs into the midst of wolves." What provisions were they to take with them and what were they not to do?

NOTE: In verses 5 and 6 Jesus told the disciples that when they first entered a house they should say, "Peace to this house!" Peace or Shalom is the traditional greeting between Jews, and the Talmud says that if anyone does not return the blessing, then he is a robber! Jesus assured them that if someone did not share in their peace, the blessing would still return to them.

4a. Jesus stated more than once that they should remain in the same house, eating and drinking whatever is provided, for the laborer deserves to be paid (verse 7). What did Jesus especially want to prohibit (from the end of verse 7) and what might be a reason He insisted on this?

b. What three things were the disciples told they should do and say when they entered a town and its people welcomed them (verses 8 and 9)?

5a. Verses 10-11 describe the reverse situation where the disciples are not welcomed. What they should do and say whenever they enter a town and are not welcomed?

b. What was Jesus' comment on such a town?

6. CONNECTION: "No purse, no bag, no sandals"... are you crazy?? Jesus asked a lot of His disciples! When WE go on a trip we prefer to be well equipped, in control, pampered. Every detail is planned. Nevertheless, some of us have found ourselves away from home like the disciples, with only the clothes on our backs. Perhaps it was the weather, health or other emergency, or maybe the airlines lost our suitcases, leaving us with no clothes, no money, no phone, no glasses...none of what we consider the essentials. Describe a time when you or someone you know were "out there" without all the "necessities," like "a lamb amidst wolves." Did you discover something important? Share what you learned with your small group.

Read and record Revelation 3:17 and pray to better understand what the true "necessities" of our lives really are.

DAY TWO

Read Luke 10:13-20

7a. As today's lesson begins, Jesus addressed Chorazin, Bethsaida and Capernaum, three towns in Galilee in which He had performed great miracles, yet which had failed to respond to Him. In verse 13 He contrasted their reaction with that of two Gentile cities who had not had the opportunity to hear the Gospel. Name the two cities.

b. Jesus told Chorazin and Bethsaida that if the deeds of power done in them had been done in Tyre and Sidon they would have responded with more faith. How would they have acted?

8. According to verse 14, at the day of judgment it will be more tolerable for Tyre and Sidon than for Chorazin and Bethsaida. Jesus then asked and answered his own question of Capernaum, which had also failed to repent, "Will you be exalted to heaven? No you will be brought down to Hades" (verse 15). Record the reason that Jesus cursed Capernaum from Matthew 11:20.

9. In verse 16, Jesus conferred great authority on His 70 messengers. What did He say to them?

10a. The seventy "returned with joy" from their missions (verse 17). What did they say to Jesus?

b. Jesus answered with a statement signifying that the disciples' success indicated a defeat of Satan (verse 18). Record His statement.

11a. In verse 19 Jesus describes for the disciples some of the miraculous powers He had given them. What were they?

b. In verse 20 Jesus reminded them of the real reason for rejoicing, and the ultimate point of their ministry. What was it? (Good memory verse)

12. CONNECTION: Like the 70 disciples in this week's lesson, Jesus sends us out to preach the Gospel and work for the conversion of the world. Like the 70 disciples we relish our small successes. Yet Jesus told them (and tells us) not to rejoice in our successes but rather to rejoice that our names are written in heaven. Jesus offers us not power and success, but love, holiness and obedience. We must focus on Him rather than the outcome of our work. Blessed Teresa of Calcutta said "God has not called me to be successful; He has called me to be faithful." Share with your small group an example of this kind of holiness which you have witnessed in our Church today.

Read and record Titus 3:5 and write a prayer today thanking God for our sonship in Christ, and asking Him to make us faithful laborers in His harvest.

DAY THREE
Read Luke 10:21-28

13a. Continuing His sermon in today's lesson, "at the same hour" Jesus expressed what has been called "a hymn of joy" to His Father, Lord of heaven and earth. For what did Jesus thank His Father according to verse 21?

b. There is a double contrast in His statement. Record the words in this sentence which contrast with the following terms:

hidden versus

wise and intelligent versus

14a. In verse 22 Jesus described His mysterious relationship to the Father. He started by saying that "All things have been handed over to me by the Father," confirming that His

ability to perform miracles was through the Father. His divine power was also confirmed by the things that the disciples were able to do. Think back to what the disciples have told Him that they were able to do in His name and note them.

b. Record the rest of Jesus' words about His relationship to His Father from verse 22.

15. Turning to His disciples Jesus said to them privately, "Blessed are the eyes that see what you see" (verse 23). Briefly summarize His reasoning from verse 24.

16a. At this point a lawyer stood up to "test" Jesus. What was his question from verse 25?

b. Jesus answered the question with another question, "What is written in the law? What do you read there?" Record the lawyer's answer here from verse 27.

17. By "law" Jesus referred to the Torah, thereby showing that He had not come to replace the law but to fulfill it. The man's reply was taken from Deuteronomy 6:5. Record Jesus' words of approval from verse 28.

18. CONNECTION: There are many contrasts in today's lesson: The contrast between the wise and intelligent versus infants (those who are childlike and innocent); the contrast between disciples who were unschooled fishermen versus prophets and kings; and the contrast between Jesus and the expert in Mosaic law who came to test Him. The "lawyer" was a powerful member of society with access to or control over information. But in this lesson Jesus thanked His Father for hiding the truth from the powerful and revealing it to the weak. The rich, powerful, and intelligent do not have all the answers. Think of a poor or humble saint or holy person (whether canonized or not) to whom God revealed his mysteries. Share how this saint inspires you.

Read and record James 4:6 and begin your prayer today asking God for the gift of humility.

DAY FOUR

Read Luke 10:29-37

19a. In yesterday's lesson, to test Jesus, a lawyer asked Him what he must do to inherit eternal life. To "justify himself" he continued to press Jesus. What was the important question that he asked in verse 29?

b. Jesus answered this question with a beautiful story about a man traveling down from Jerusalem to Jericho. What happened to the man from verse 30?

20a. In verses 31-32 a priest and a Levite (who represented leadership in the Hebrew religion) passed by the man on the other side of the road. What could be a reason they each did this? (To help with your answer, read Numbers 19:11.)

b. What was the different reaction by the Samaritan who came near him (verse 33)?

NOTE: The Jews and the Samaritans were originally related by faith, but had long since been alienated from each other in both worship and politics. The Jews looked at the Samaritans with great contempt.

21a. List all the things the Samaritan did for the wounded man in verse 34.

b. The Samaritan did even more for the man. Summarize verse 35.

22. After finishing the story, Jesus then asked the lawyer a question: "Which of these three, do you think, was a neighbor to the man who fell into the hands of the robbers?" What did the lawyer answer (verse 37)?

23. Jesus said to him and to us, "Go and do likewise." In this parable Jesus established mercy as the basis for love of neighbor, expanding the definition of neighbor to more than kin or countrymen. From this parable how would you define neighbor? Who is not your neighbor?

24. CONNECTION: Imagine that this story takes place in today's world and you were traveling from St. Louis to Memphis, ran out of gas and were robbed and left for dead on Highway 55. To parallel Jesus' parable, assume that a bishop and a preacher pass you by. Instead, an illegal immigrant stops to help you. Who was the neighbor? As Christians who are called to perfection, we often fall short. We are especially vulnerable to the charge of hypocrisy. Think of some examples of those who overcome prejudices and differences to extend compassion to all of God's children. Share these examples with your small group.

Read and record Leviticus 19:34 and pray that you may, like the Samaritan, humbly and obediently fulfill the will of God toward your neighbor.

DAY FIVE

Read Luke 10:38-42

25a. In today's lesson Jesus continued on His way to Jerusalem and entered a certain village. What happened there from verse 38?

b. Look up the name of Martha's village in John 11:1 and find its location on a map. Name the town and the major city it is near.

26a. Martha had a sister named Mary. What do we learn about her sister in verse 39?

b. Martha and Mary worked for the Lord in two different ways. How would you describe the work of each?

NOTE: It is remarkable for first-century Palestinian Judaism that a woman would assume the posture of a disciple at the master's feet (see also [Luke 8:35](#); [Acts 22:3](#)), and it reveals a characteristic attitude of Jesus toward women in this gospel (see [Luke 8:2-3](#)). USCCB

27a. In the first part of verse 40 Martha was distracted by her many tasks and blamed her sister that she had no time to sit and listen to Jesus. What was her complaint?

b. What did Martha rudely order Jesus to do at the end of verse 40?

28. How did the Lord answer Martha in verse 41 and how would you describe His tone?

29a. Jesus pointed out in the first part of verse 42 that there is need of only one thing. To what was He referring?

b. How did Jesus describe Mary's role at the end of verse 42?

30. **CONNECTION:** Whether we are male or female, most of us are either more of a "Martha" or more of a "Mary." Martha wanted to be a good host, a good provider, a good worker ... in her way, she was serving her "neighbor." Unfortunately, Marthas can often become distracted, anxious or overly worried about details. They can be so busy they overlook the "one thing that is needed." A Mary looks at problems and more often serenely places them in God's hands. She sits at the feet of Our Lord, keeping her gaze on Him. Jesus told Martha that Mary "had the better part." What are some ways to become less of a Martha and more of a Mary? Share some ideas with your small group.

Read and record [Philippians 4:6-7](#) and spend time today praying at Jesus' feet.

DAY SIX

Read Luke 11:1-4

31a. As today's lesson begins Jesus was praying in a certain place. When He was finished His disciples asked him a question. What was it?

NOTE: It was a tradition for rabbis to teach their disciples a simple prayer that they could pray on a daily basis. Dailyscripture.net.

b. Jesus told His disciples to start their prayer by first addressing and praising God. Record the first two lines of verse 2.

32a. To hallow God's name is to honor and praise Him. It is always good to start our prayers by praising and thanking God, our Creator and Redeemer! Record one or two of the following Biblical verses which praise God.

Exodus 15:2

Psalm 43:4

Psalm 69:30

1 Peter 1:3-4

b. Next Jesus told His disciples to ask that God's reign be established on the earth. How does He put this at the end of verse 2?

33a. What did Jesus say to ask for in verse 3?

NOTE: Jesus did not tell us to ask only for bread for ourselves; rather, for all mankind. The Catechism of the Catholic Church teaches (2768) that "(The Lord) teaches us to make prayer in common for all our brethren. For he did not say "my Father" who art in heaven, but "our" Father, offering petitions for the common Body.

b. Jesus told us to ask for bread for one day at a time. Why would He not tell us to ask for bread for a lifetime?

34a. In the first sentence of verse 4, what did Jesus tell them to pray about forgiveness?

b. Jesus makes forgiveness the basis of our relationship with God. God has forgiven us our sins and therefore we must show the same mercy to those who have wronged us. Compare this passage with Matthew 6:12 and comment on the difference(s).

THINK: In the last line of verse 4, Jesus our Savior told the disciples to pray to the Father that He not bring them to the time of trial. We depend so much on God's mercy! What do you fear in your time of trial? (You need not share this answer!)

36. CONNECTION: Luke's "Our Father" is a shorter version than the more familiar version of the prayer contained in Matthew's gospel, containing 5 rather than 7 petitions. It is a simple prayer yet it says so many things. It puts us in a proper attitude and position towards God, praising His name and constantly depending on Him as our Father. It asks for enough bread for just that day, admitting our constant need for His help. It puts us in the right relationship towards our fellow man, who is our brother and who we must forgive. It begs God's mercy in time of trial that we should not be tempted or asked to endure what is beyond our strength. Share with your small group some of the blessings you have received by praying this prayer.

Read and record Galatians 4:4-7 and marvel at God's love, to be called Father by us.

After completing this lesson, read pages 72-79 in the *The Gospel According to Luke* by Michael F. Patella, O.S.B. The Cornerstone Catholic Scripture Study acknowledges that scripture quotations in this study are from the New Revised Standard Version Bible: Copyright © 1989, Division of Christian Education of the National Council of Churches of Christ in the United States of America. Used by permission. All rights reserved.