

Luke *Following Jesus*

4. Workers for the Harvest

Luke 10.1-20

Aim: To examine a mission of the disciples and consider our own attitudes towards the mission God has given us.

To start with:

- What are you passionate about/what topic gets you talking non-stop, and why?
- How do you react to the words 'mission' and 'evangelism'?
- Where do you think of as your 'mission field'? (Home, work, school, sports team, social group etc.) What is the spiritual environment like there?

Looking at the text:

Read Jesus' instructions - Luke 10.1-16

1. Split the group into four. Each smaller group should look at one of the following sections and discuss:
 - a. Why Jesus says what he does.
 - b. How far his instructions and warnings can be applied to our mission fields.

The four sections are: 10.2-4, 10.5-7, 10.8-12, 10.13-16.

Note to Leaders: *If your group is smaller, split into 2; have one half look at 10.2-7 and the other half look at 10.8-15*

Ask each group to feedback their thoughts to everyone else.

2. What things really motivate you for mission or evangelism? What things hold you back?
3. What encouragement or motivation for mission can we take from this passage?

Now read Jesus' reaction - Luke 10.17-20

4. If you were one of the disciples who returned in verse 17 how would you have expected Jesus to react? Why do you think it ISN'T what they might have expected?
5. What point is Jesus making in verses 18-20? (NB. 'snakes and scorpions' here refers to demons).

How should our attitude towards mission be shaped by what he says here?

Prayer and response:

Spend some time quietly reflecting on your own attitudes to mission/ evangelism: why and how you do it. Is there anything God is prompting you to change?

In twos or threes, share your thoughts and pray for each other in both your personal and the wider church's mission field.