

FROM MEMBER TO MINISTER
BECOMING THE HANDS AND FEET OF JESUS TO YOUR WORLD
9/18/2016

Luke 10:1-11, 17-20

After this the Lord appointed seventy-two others and sent them two by two ahead of him to every town and place where he was about to go. He told them, "The harvest is plentiful, but the workers are few. Ask the Lord of the harvest, therefore, to send out workers into the harvest field. Go! I am sending you out like lambs among wolves. Do not take a purse or bag or sandals; and do not greet anyone on the road.

"When you enter a house, first say, 'Peace to this house.' If someone who promotes peace is there, your peace will rest on them; if not, it will return to you. Stay there, eating and drinking whatever they give you for the worker deserves his wages. Do not move around from house to house.

"When you enter a town and are welcomed, eat what is offered to you. Heal the sick who are there and tell them, 'The kingdom of God has come near to you.' But when you enter a town and are not welcomed, go into its streets and say, 'Even the dust of your town we wipe from our feet as a warning to you. Yet be sure of this: The kingdom of God has come near.'

The seventy-two returned with joy and said, "Lord, even the demons submit to us in your name."

He replied, "I saw Satan fall like lightning from heaven. I have given you authority to trample on snakes and scorpions and to overcome all the power of the enemy; nothing will harm you. However, do not rejoice that the spirits submit to you, but rejoice that your names are written in heaven."

I. Introduction

- A. We have taught about the difference between a believer and a disciple. Discipleship is a path Jesus calls us to cross lines of greater and greater _____ so that we can experience greater blessing and anointing.

Whereas believers accept the content of Jesus' teachings, disciples pursue the _____ of Jesus in every area of their lives. "*Many are called but few are chosen.*" (Mat. 22:14)

- B. One of the key choices of commitment we see, is the choice to move from being a member to a _____. (audience/army, recruit/representative, parishioner/partner).

Some observations from the text:

1. **Who he called-**_____

A minister is simply someone who serves God by helping others as God leads. When a person becomes a Christian they also become a minister, the Bible teaches.

- "*It is He who saved us and chose us for his holy work, not because we deserved it but because that was his plan before the world began.*" (2 Tim. 1:9 LB)
- "*God in his grace, chose me even before I was born, and called me to serve him.*" (Gal. 1:15)

2. **Why he called**

- a. To reach the harvest
"*Jesus mission will only be fulfilled by the sacrifices of the many not the gifts of the few.*" –Brian Houston
- b. To bring _____ and significance to the lives of the disciples
"*They returned with joy...*" (vs. 17)

Fulfillment will never come from status only from serving.

- c. To bring the help we need from the gifts and strengths of each _____
(He sent them two by two.) *“All of you together are one body of Christ and each of you is separate and necessary.” (I Cor. 12:27)*

We need others to minister to us and we need others to help us minister.

The greatness of a church, a family, a business, or any group is not in the numbers of their members but in the number of their _____.

II. Ways Jesus teaches us to successfully fulfill our ministry

- A. _____ yourself to God and make yourself completely available for Him to use.
The first person we minister to is always to _____.
- *“What a huge harvest! And how few harvest hands. So on your knees; ask the God of the harvest to send you.” (Luke 10:2 Mgs)*
 - *“Therefore, I urge you, brothers and sisters, in view of God’s mercy, to offer your bodies as a living sacrifice, holy and pleasing to God-this is your true and proper worship. Do not conform to the pattern of the world, but be transformed by the renewing of your mind.” (Rom. 12:1-2).*

A person who is consecrated to God:

1. Offers themselves to God.
 2. Chooses a different “unselfish” ministry _____.
“not looking to your own interests but each of you to the interests of others. In your relationship with one another, have the same mindset as Christ Jesus.” (Phil. 2:4-5)
- B. _____ things that would keep you from making Christ’s ministry a priority.
What are the hindrances, distractions, and competition to fulfilling your ministry for Christ?
- C. Choose to _____ and find your place in the body on the team.
“For just as each of us has one body with many members, and these members do not all have the same function, so in Christ we, though many, form one body, and each member belongs to all the others.” (Rom. 12:4)
- D. _____, step out in faith to minister trusting God to work.
1. We must be willing to step out of our comfort zone.
 2. We must give depending on God to work through us.
“Ministry is God using us to meet others needs with His resources.” –John Wimber
Ministry is using whatever you have, where you are, to give whatever you can in Jesus name, leaving the _____ up to God.
“tell them, ‘the kingdom of God has come near to you.’” (vs. 9)
- E. Trust God to remediate. *“Shake the dust off your feet.”*
- F. Get ready to _____.
“They that sow in tears, will reap with songs of joy. Those who go out weeping, carrying seed to sow, will return with songs of joy, carrying sheaves with them.” (Ps. 126:6)

(Answers: commitment, choices, minister, workers, joy, other, ministers II. Consecrate, God, mindset, Eliminate, participate, Initiate, results, celebrate)