

## Separated, Sent, and Successful (Luke 9:1-6; 10:1-20)

### I. Introduction

#### A. *This Week in Clear Living*

1. Our ministry is only effective through cooperation.
2. Effective outreach ministry requires prayer and proclamation.
3. Compassion and evangelism go hand-in-hand.
4. Effective ministry requires that we trust God to meet our needs.
5. Discernment and determination must characterize our evangelism efforts.

**Question:** Should all Christians be involved in reaching the lost? If so, then how can each of us as individuals be more effective in doing so? What does the Lord want YOU to do?

#### B. Luke 8:26-35 show why ministering to others is important, and Luke 8:39 shows how a person can effectively witness.

1. Jesus and the disciples had traveled across the Sea of Galilee to Gadara. The night before was when the disciples had been frightened by the bad storm.
2. In Gadara, they found a "wild" man that had been living in the tombs, emphasis on "wild". He was possessed by many demons.
3. Jesus cast the demons out of the man, and the man was set free from the demons that were tormenting him.
4. Why do we present Christ to others?
  - a. Many people in this world are in torment. We cannot usually fix their problems, but Jesus can.
  - b. We present Christ to others out of gratitude. If Jesus has saved you, then you have much for which to be grateful.
  - c. We present Christ out of love for the Lord and others (Matthew 22:37-39).
  - d. The man had wanted to join Jesus and travel with Him. But Jesus instead told him to tell others. Luke 8:38 says, "Now the man out of whom the devils were departed besought him that he might be with him: but Jesus sent him away."
5. How do we present Christ to others? Luke 8:39 says, "Return to thine own house, and shew how great things God hath done unto thee. And he went his way, and published throughout the whole city how great things Jesus had done unto him."
6. Where do we present Christ to others? **Wherever He leads.**

#### C. Matthew 28:18-20 says, "And Jesus came and spake unto them, saying, All power is given unto me in heaven and in earth. Go ye therefore, and teach all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Ghost: Teaching them to observe all things whatsoever I have commanded you: and, lo, I am with you always, even unto the end of the world. Amen."

1. In whose name do we labor? The work belongs to the Father, the Son, and the Holy Ghost.

## Separated, Sent, and Successful (Luke 9:1-6; 10:1-20)

2. We are not alone as we labor. Who goes with us? The Father, the Son, and the Holy Ghost are with us.
  3. **We should let the Holy Spirit** live the commandments of Christ within us before others (Matthew 22:37-39).
  4. **Under the direction of the Holy Spirit**, we should be ready to share our hope with others. I Peter 3:15 says, "But sanctify the Lord God in your hearts: and be ready always to give an answer to every man that asketh you a reason of the hope that is in you with meekness and fear:"
  5. The Holy Spirit oversees the work, and I make a big mistake when I think that it is my ministry. I am simply the servant (Matthew 20:26-28).
- D. In Luke 8:41-56, Jesus continued to minister to others.
1. He healed the 12-year old daughter of a man named Jairus.
  2. He healed a woman in the crowd that had had a flowing issue (**rhusis**) of blood for twelve years.

**Question:** Many people, including some Christians, think that Faith Healers can heal them? Do you agree or disagree, and why?

- II. In Luke 9:1-6, Jesus sends His disciples out to minister.
- A. In verse 1, Jesus called them together. He "gave them power and authority over all devils, and to cure diseases."
1. Does Jesus still give individuals unique powers over the devils and to cure diseases? The answer is probably no. These were sign gifts.
  2. Sign gifts were given at this time to get peoples' attention to the fact that things were changing.
    - a. God's people were moving from the Dispensation of the Law to the Dispensation of Grace.
    - b. **The sign gifts were showing the beginning of the Church Age, and they were always temporary.**
    - c. Not everyone agrees that the sign gifts were temporary (note that speaking in tongues and professing Faith healers are around today).
  3. Many Christians put confidence in speaking in tongues, but most conservative Bible scholars believe that speaking in tongues was also a sign gift intended for that unique period of time.
- B. In verses 2, Jesus sent them to preach the kingdom of God and to heal the sick.
1. Preachers sometimes preach about the importance of witnessing, and zealous Christians get excited for a little while about telling others about Christ. **However, this verse shows that that is the wrong way to witness.**
  2. Jesus sent His disciples. **Apostello** means "to order (one) to go to a place appointed."
  3. He sent them to preach the kingdom.

### **Separated, Sent, and Successful (Luke 9:1-6; 10:1-20)**

- a. Preach (*kerusso*) - "to proclaim after the manner of a herald, to publish, proclaim openly: something [that] has been done."
- b. Kingdom (*basileia*) - "used in the N.T. to refer to the reign of the Messiah, not to be confused with an actual kingdom but rather the right or authority to rule over a kingdom"
4. He sent them to heal the sick (a sign gift).
  - a. How can we heal the sick?
  - b. Heal (*iaomai*) - "to cure, heal, to make whole, to free from errors and sins, and to bring about (one's) salvation."
  - c. We can heal the sin-sick and sin-dead people around us by telling them about the Lord.
- C. In verses 3-5, the disciples are instructed to do some specific things. Does that mean that we are to do those same things?
  1. They were not to take anything for their journey.
  2. They were to abide with those that would receive them.
  3. They were to depart from where they were not wanted and dust off their feet as a sign against the location.
  4. How would you interpret these verses for our efforts today?
    - a. They were to trust the Lord to meet all of their physical needs (verse 3).
    - b. They were to humble themselves and receive assistance/lodging from those that offered. In other words, they would be involved in the work of the ministry, not on a vacation (verse 4).
    - c. They were not to force themselves on anyone.
- D. In verse 6, they obeyed the Lord and departed for other cities.

#### III. In Luke 10:1-20, Jesus continued to focus on ministering to others.

- A. In Luke 10:1, He sent out seventy more in groups of two.
- B. In Luke 10:2-11, He gave the seventy the same instructions as His disciples.
  1. They were not to carry any supplies (money, provisions, or even shoes).
  2. They were not to salute (*aspazomai* - their journey was not a social visit) anybody.
  3. They were to receive hospitality graciously.
  4. They were to heal the sick. Again this was not just the physically ill. It was also the spiritually ill.
- C. In Luke 10:12-15, they were told that their message carried a blessing and a curse. **The same is true of each of us.**
  1. When they returned, they were excited about the power that they had had.
  2. Jesus told them to be happy that they were saved.

**Question:** How can we be effective witnesses/ministers for the Lord?

#### IV. How can we be effective witnesses/ministers for the Lord?

### **Separated, Sent, and Successful (Luke 9:1-6; 10:1-20)**

- A. We can be effective witnesses/ministers for the Lord without ever opening our mouth, simply by living our Faith before others.
1. Love the Lord with all your heart, mind, and soul. Matthew 22:37-38 says, "Jesus said unto him, Thou shalt love the Lord thy God with all thy heart, and with all thy soul, and with all thy mind. This is the first and great commandment."
  2. Love our neighbor as ourselves. Matthew 22:37-38 says, "Jesus said unto him, Thou shalt love the Lord thy God with all thy heart, and with all thy soul, and with all thy mind. This is the first and great commandment."
  3. Trust the Lord to take care of us. Matthew 6:33 says, "But seek ye first the kingdom of God, and his righteousness; and all these things shall be added unto you."
  4. Have the mind of a servant. Matthew 20:26-27 says, "But it shall not be so among you: but whosoever will be great among you, let him be your minister; And whosoever will be chief among you, let him be your servant:"
  5. Cooperate with the Holy Spirit as He conforms us to the image of the Lord. Romans 8:29 says, "For whom he did foreknow, he also did predestinate to be conformed to the image of his Son, that he might be the firstborn among many brethren."
- B. We can also be effective witnesses/ministers for the Lord when we speak if we have the right mindset.
1. Understand why Jesus came, and set your priorities accordingly. Luke 19:10 says, "For the Son of man is come to seek and to save that which was lost."
  2. Always be ready to share the hope within us. I Peter 3:15 says, "But sanctify the Lord God in your hearts: and be ready always to give an answer to every man that asketh you a reason of the hope that is in you with meekness and fear:"
  3. Keep our gospel in full view. II Corinthians 4:3 says, "But if our gospel be hid, it is hid to them that are lost:"
  4. Use your spiritual gifts as a tool for ministry. Romans 12:4-5 says, "For as we have many members in one body, and all members have not the same office: So we, being many, are one body in Christ, and every one members one of another."
- C. We have a responsibility to the Lord and to others. Matthew 28:19-20 says, "Go ye therefore, and teach all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Ghost: Teaching them to observe all things whatsoever I have commanded you: and, lo, I am with you always, even unto the end of the world. Amen."
- V. Next week's lesson: Would the real Jesus Christ please stand up (Luke 9:18-22, 28-36)?