

SMALL GROUP GUIDE

IN THE FOOTSTEPS OF JESUS

Luke is an 'orderly account' of the life of Jesus, and the way of life Jesus invites us into. As we SEE Him, so we see the implication of those words "come follow me." We will kick off 2024 from chapter 3 and work our way through this gospel account.



WHEN YOU MEET:

This discussion relates to the teaching from Sunday 13 October

SERMON: grlc.org.au/grlc-hub/

TESTIMONY TIME: Have one person in the group share what they've been learning about Jesus.

PRAY: Share praise points and pain points, and think about who else around us might need prayer (e.g. Israel and Palestine, Russia and Ukraine, Myanmar)

READ: Luke 10:17-24

DISCUSS: *NOTE: the sermon-specific questions are on the next page...*

1. What especially challenges or inspires you in this passage and why?
2. What does this passage reveal about being God's people in Australia today?
3. What does this passage say about finding and sustaining unity as God's people?
4. What does this passage reveal about identity or purpose as God's people?
5. How does this passage lead you to a greater reliance on the Holy Spirit?

PRAY: Take 10 minutes to work through Examen together. You may want to allow a few moments afterwards for people to share what happened. Find more information and audio files on the website:

<https://grlc.org.au/2020/10/08/daily-examen/>

MORE RESOURCES:

- Discipleship Resources Hub: grlc.org.au/discipleship-resources/
- Latest sermon: <https://grlc.org.au/grlc-hub/>



SERMON SPECIFIC QUESTIONS:

1. Who were the 72 people that Jesus sent out, and why is their identity important to the message of the passage?
 - Reflect on the fact that they were not named or famous disciples. How does this relate to the way Jesus chooses and uses ordinary people today?
2. What was the task given to the 72? How does this task reflect Jesus' own ministry?
 - Consider the instruction to proclaim that the kingdom of God has come near, and to demonstrate this through healing and compassionate acts. How does this resonate with the work of the church and our own lives as disciples today?
3. Why did Jesus emphasize that the "harvest is plentiful but the workers are few"? What does this mean for the church's role in the world?
 - Discuss the urgency of the mission (both local and global) and how Jesus portrays the spiritual harvest. Often, we are tempted to think there is no harvest to be had because people don't want to know about Jesus....even though they do! Discuss.
4. What challenges did Jesus warn the 72 about, and how were they to approach these challenges?
 - Explore the idea of being "sheep among wolves" and what it means to depend on Jesus' authority and power in difficult situations. When have you experienced feeling like a sheep among wolves?
5. How did the 72 react upon their return, and what did Jesus teach them about true joy and success in ministry?
 - Reflect on the balance between the joy and wonder of seeing spiritual victories (demons submitting) and the greater joy of having their names written in heaven. How does this shape our perspective on "ministry" success?
6. What does Jesus mean by saying, "I saw Satan fall like lightning from heaven"? How does this relate to the work of the 72 and the broader mission of the church?
 - Consider the spiritual significance of their mission and how it connects to the larger battle against evil. How do you see this playing out in your own spiritual life or ministry? Do you minimise the spiritual battle?
7. Scott discussed common barriers to stepping into God's assignments for our lives such as:
 - *Apathy - "I'm not persuaded or convinced that I need to do anything nor would it make any difference to me or anyone else..."*
 - *Distraction - "I'm not available, I've got other plans for my life - I need that income, that lifestyle, that hobby, we are heavily distracted - and we pick many things over call"*
 - *Insecurity - "I'm not competent/suitable"- this is huge, shame, not feeling qualified, or in*
 - *Fear - "I'm not confident" - fear of failure, fear that God won't provide, that it will mess up your life too much, limit your options - poverty mind-set - even if God calls he won't provide.*
 - *Hardship - "It's all too hard" - there is more against me than for me, I'm lacking resources*

Which of these do you most relate to? As a group you may like to pray that the power of these mindsets be exposed and deposed.