

IMPACT MAKERS

Prayer—Fuel for Missions
Luke 10:1-2
September 22, 2019

And he said to them, “The harvest is plentiful, but the laborers are few. Therefore pray earnestly to the Lord of the harvest to send out laborers into his harvest. -Luke 10:2

I. PRAY EARNESTLY

- The question does not seem to be “Are there those who will hear and respond to the gospel?” The question is: “Will someone share it with them?” (vs. 2; Matt. 9:37; John 4:31-38).
- Even while going the disciples are to be praying (vs. 2).
- The mystery of prayer is in full view here. God desires that people be saved, and he urges us to pray to him that he will see to it that they hear the message.
- God could accomplish evangelism/missions/salvation with angels, but angels are harvesters, not sowers. We sow, they reap (Matt. 13:36-39; Acts 10).

II. THE KEY TO MISSIONS AND EVANGELISM

- Jesus called the disciples to do something and to pray while they were doing it. A consistent theme in Scripture (Neh. 4:9).
- Paul was never shy about asking for prayer that his evangelism/missions would be fruitful (Eph. 6:18-20; Col. 4:2-4; 2 Thess. 3:1-2).

***Even as we go and pray, Jesus assures his disciples (and us)**

that we can expect: (Matt. 10:16-23)

1. To be like lambs in the midst of wolves.
2. To be delivered over to human authorities.
3. God to use our trials as opportunities to share the gospel.
4. Family discord.
5. To be hated by all for Christ’s sake.
6. Salvation for all who endure.
7. To still be about the task when Christ returns.

KNOW: Prayer fuels missions. God, as Lord of the harvest, commands us to pray that even more effective missions might take place.

DO: Pray. Be about the task of going/sending and praying.

Suggested Reading:

Operation World: The Definitive Prayer Guide to Every Nation by Jason Mandryk (LifePoint Library #264 MAN).

Questions/Discovery Points for Life Groups/Families

Please Read Luke 10:1-2

1. What is the setting for our passage on Sunday? For instance, why is Jesus sending the seventy-two out?
2. What “harvest” is Jesus speaking about here?
3. What are your thoughts on Pastor Jym’s discussion concerning praying to God to ask him to do something that he could easily do without our asking?
4. What do prayers for more laborers for the harvest look like? How do we do that? What should we say?
5. Do you pray for missions/missionaries? How do you go about doing that?
6. In what way has this topic/message changed you? How will you apply the message/text from Sunday to your own life?