

Harvest

Part 3

Luke 10:1-11 (NIV)

¹ 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.

² He told them, "The harvest is plentiful, but the workers are few. Ask the Lord of the harvest, therefore, to send out workers into his harvest field.

³ Go! I am sending you out like lambs among wolves.

⁴ Do not take a purse or bag or sandals; and do not greet anyone on the road.

⁵ "When you enter a house, first say, 'Peace to this house.'

⁶ If a man of peace is there, your peace will rest on him; if not, it will return to you.

⁷ Stay in that house, eating and drinking whatever they give you, for the worker deserves his wages. Do not move around from house to house.

⁸ "When you enter a town and are welcomed, eat what is set before you.

⁹ Heal the sick who are there and tell them, 'The kingdom of God is near you.'

¹⁰ But when you enter a town and are not welcomed, go into its streets and say,

¹¹ 'Even the dust of your town that sticks to our feet we wipe off against you. Yet be sure of this: The kingdom of God is near.'

1. Read the passage – what stands out for you?
2. What do you think Jesus is talking about when he uses the metaphor of the harvest?
3. Where might apathy for the harvest come from?
4. How can we regain our sense of urgency for the harvest?
5. Can you be a true follower of Jesus without a sense of mission?
6. How was Jesus going to connect with the work of the 72? (Verse 1). How does Jesus connect with our mission?
7. What does it mean in practical terms that the Harvest is plentiful?
8. How does being involved in God's harvest present both opportunities and dangers?
9. **Discuss:** *To laugh is to risk appearing the fool. To weep is to risk appearing sentimental. To reach out to another is to risk involvement. To expose feelings is to risk exposing our true self. To place your ideas and your dreams before the crowd is to risk loss. To love is to risk not being loved in return. To live is to risk dying. To hope is to risk despair. To try at all is to risk failure. But to risk we must, because the greatest hazard in life is to risk nothing. The man, the woman, who risks nothing does nothing, has nothing, is nothing.* (Donald Ewing)