

Setting Our Faces Toward Jerusalem

The Lord of the Harvest
Luke 10:1-22

A silhouette of a city skyline with various buildings and domes, set against a light orange background.

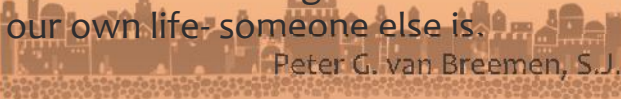
Season of Lent

- » A time to reflect on our journey with Jesus
- » 7 weeks leading up to Easter

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Since the heart of it is the relationship between the sender and the sent, a mission cannot be possessed: on the contrary, it requires a daily abandonment to the one who missions. Mission means precisely that we are no longer in control of our own life- someone else is.

Peter G. van Breemen, S.J.


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Sender & Sent Ones
Luke 10:1-4

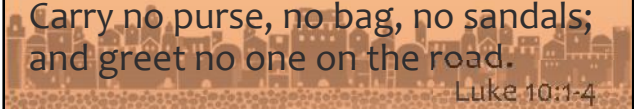
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After this the Lord appointed seventy others and sent them on ahead of him in pairs to every town and place where he himself intended to go. He said to them,

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‘The harvest is plentiful, but the labourers are few; therefore ask the Lord of the harvest to send out labourers into his harvest. Go on your way. See, I am sending you out like lambs into the midst of wolves. Carry no purse, no bag, no sandals; and greet no one on the road.

Luke 10:1-4

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Sent Out by Jesus

- » 70 disciples sent out in 2s
- » 70 – a symbolic number representing the nations (Genesis 10)
- » Going out as advance teams of Jesus' ministry

Harvest Great; Workers Few

- » Workers are needed (then & now)
- » Pray to the Father for workers

Travel Light; Stay Focused

- » Light (v4); stay focused (v4b)
- » Focus on hospitality

"Proclaim"

- » "The kingdom of God has come near to you." (v9 & 11)
- » It is good news not bad but depends on the perspective of the recipient
- » We pray for open hearts

Different Responses

- » Some respond in peace (v5)
- » Others reject (v10-11)
- » The kingdom of God has still drawn near
- » Chorazin & Bethsaida (v13)

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The Success of the Mission

Luke 10:18-22

He said to them, 'I watched Satan fall from heaven like a flash of lightning. See, I have given you authority to tread on snakes and scorpions, and over all the power of the enemy; and nothing will hurt you.'



Nevertheless, do not rejoice at this, that the spirits submit to you, but rejoice that your names are written in heaven.'

Luke 10:18-20



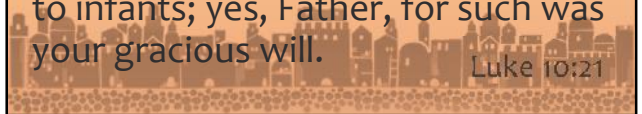
The Disciples Return

- » Return in joy and enthusiasm
- » Satan fell like lightening (v18)
- » Rejoice in your relationship with the Father – no pride (v20)



At that same hour Jesus rejoiced in the Holy Spirit and said, 'I thank you, Father, Lord of heaven and earth, because you have hidden these things from the wise and the intelligent and have revealed them to infants; yes, Father, for such was your gracious will.'

Luke 10:21



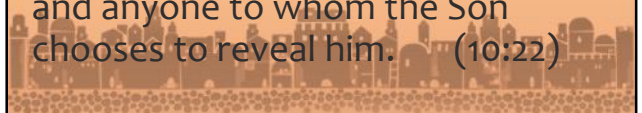
Jesus' Prayer of Thanks

- » A response not based on IQ rather based on the Spirit's revelation
- » Open hearts like a child
- » Wisdom (sophia) is from God (enlightenment)



A Johanine Lightning Bolt

All things have been handed over to me by my Father; and no one knows who the Son is except the Father, or who the Father is except the Son and anyone to whom the Son chooses to reveal him. (10:22)




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Going
Forward

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A Focus on Relationship

- » Not knowledge but relationship;
not theology but a dynamic with
Jesus

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We Are Sent Ones

- » Jesus is the sender
- » We are the sent ones both as
individuals & as a faith community


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Our Message: Good News

- » The kingdom of God has drawn
near
- » A message of love, inclusion,
acceptance


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Take, Lord, and receive all my liberty,
my memory, my understanding, and
my entire will,
all that I have and call my own.
You have given it all to me.

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To you, Lord, I return it.
Everything is yours; do with it what
you will.
Give me only your love
and your grace.
That is enough for me.

St. Ignatius

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