

Informational Packet

Love Your City Community Celebration



Sunday, October 2, 2022

@ 6 PM

Jolly Park, 102 Railroad Ave. Gaffney

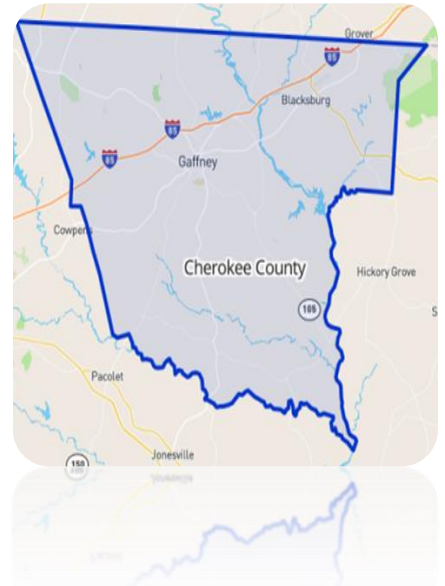
**Rain Venue:
Limestone University, Fullerton Auditorium**

**Theme:
“Pray For One, Invite One, Bring One”**

Vision

- **75%** or **42,462** are unchurched in Cherokee County.
- Percentage likely to have become active in church will be **0% by 2026**
- **IF** trends stay the same, the percentage of those involved in church will be **0% by 2028**

To reach our increasingly unchurched communities, we must **Pray**, we must **Partner**, and we must **Proclaim** the Gospel.



Strategy

Leading up to our LYC Community Celebration

Sunday, October 2, 2022 at Jolly Park in downtown Gaffney, we are asking churches to adopt the “**Pray For One, Invite One, Bring One**” strategy.

“Pray For One”

If every church and every member made a commitment to pray daily for at least one lost person in their circle of influence, to invite them to the LYC Celebration, to intentionally sow seeds of the Gospel into their lives, and to bring them to the Celebration, the impact on our county would be incredible. In addition to individuals praying daily for the lost, we are asking churches to **PARTNER** on at least 2 designated dates in the months prior to October to pray specifically and strategically for their one(s) and for revival and spiritual awakening in our communities. (Pastors have been provided a prayer strategy for these prayer meetings).

Our church will partner with: _____

Date: _____ **Location:** _____

Date: _____ **Location:** _____

Please Call the Associational office (864) 489-3119 or email us at melissa@brbasc.org to let us know what churches are partnering, when and where.

Powerful Prayer Tool

Evangelist Jon Reed, the speaker for our LYC Community Celebration, has developed an app to assist churches and individuals who desire to grow in their outreach and prayer for the lost.



SOW Evangelism
SOW Evangelism
Jon Reed
★★★★★ 4.8 • 4 Ratings
Free

To use the app, each church will need to set up an account by emailing JonReedMinistries@gmail.com or calling 678-516-5123. Once the account has been set up, the Pastor will ask the church to download the app and give members a code to enter for their church. How to use the App:

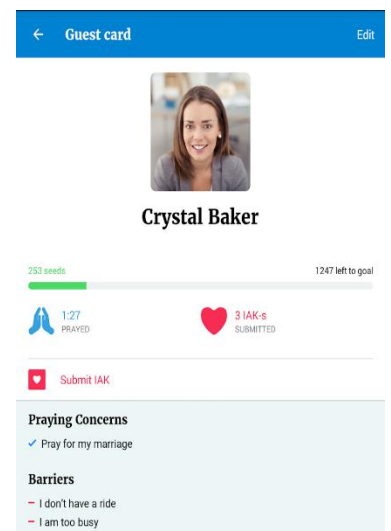
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=CRcn6PQWVFA>

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=dxnVBYOioms>

The app allows you to create a prayer journal, which tracks who you are praying for, how long you prayed for them, and how you are investing in their lives.

The app also tracks the amount of time your church is praying for and investing in the lost.

The app includes a time for churches to pray for their pastors.



“Invite One”

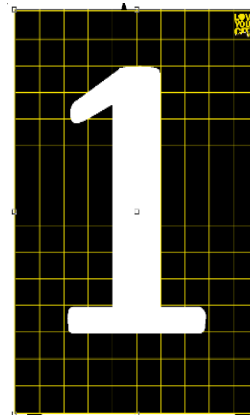
In his book, *The Unchurched Next Door*, Thom Rainer shares that “**Eighty-two percent** of the unchurched are at least somewhat likely to attend church **if invited.**” In his article, “5 Insights About the Unchurched That Might Surprise You” Rainer reveals that almost 8 of 10 unchurched Americans would welcome a gospel conversation; 55 percent of the unchurched said they would attend church **if invited** by a family member; and 51 percent said they would attend church **if invited** by a friend or neighbor. The fields are truly ripe for harvest.

We have ordered **10,000** business card size invitations for our churches to pass out to their one(s) and others over the next several months.



Visual

We are providing the following visual for churches to put in a prominent place in their church as a reminder of the commitment we have made to pray for the lost. We are also providing 4 different colored sticky notes for you to place in front of the display board.



RED



YELLOW



GREEN



BLUE



Step 1: Everyone will write the name of 1 or more lost person(s) on a **Red** sticky note and attach it to one of the squares on the board. There are 122 available squares on each display board. (Pray for 1 in 2022)

Step 2: Give an invitation card to the one(s) you are praying for. Encourage them to check out the videos on the back. The back of the invitation cards contains QR codes for 2 powerful Gospel messages (1 by Matt Chandler and the other by Billy Graham, both are less than 3 minutes). After you have given an invitation card, write their name(s) on a **Yellow** sticky note, remove the Red note and replace it with the Yellow one.

Step 3: Pray for an opportunity to share the Gospel with your one(s). You can ask them if they were able to watch the videos on the back of the invitation card. This could serve as an open door to share the Gospel. After you have shared the Gospel, write their name on a **Green** sticky note, remove the Yellow note and replace it with the Green one. **Idea:** Treat your one to a meal.

Step 4: If your one(s) receive Christ, write their name on a **Blue** sticky note, remove the Green one and replace it with the Blue one.

Link to order more sticky notes:

https://www.amazon.com/dp/B00CMKA9BG?psc=1&ref=ppx_yo2ov_dt_b_product_details

“Bring One”

After praying for your one(s) daily and corporately, inviting them to the LYC Community Celebration, taking intentional steps to build a relationship with them, and after sharing the Gospel with them, the next step is to bring them to the Park on October 2 at 6PM, where they will experience a powerful time of worship and hear a powerful Gospel message by Evangelist Jon Reed. Instead of having a meal at the service this year, we are encouraging you to **take your one(s) out for a meal** after the service, where you will have a great opportunity to discuss the service and their relationship with the Lord.



Jon Reed, President of Georgia Baptist Evangelists

Prayer For Revival, Spiritual Awakening & Your One(s)

(This outline is given to assist in planning a prayer meeting with other churches)

Welcome: _____

- Remind people why we are gathered.
- Remind them of the Theme: "Pray for One, Invite One, Bring One"

Worship Song: _____

Video: Molly Bruno, War Room (1:30) <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=YyOvGJYbe0U>
<https://www.facebook.com/watch/?v=1703649843199927> (HD version)

Scripture Reading: _____ (Psalm 85)

Prayer Time for Revival: _____

Worship Song: _____

Video: Great Awakening In America (2 min.) <https://vimeo.com/182612309>
Call For Spiritual Revival Video 1 (3 Mins.) <https://vimeo.com/38930108>
Call For Spiritual Revival Video Two (2 Mins.) <https://vimeo.com/38931875>
Great Documentary: <https://www.prayingonthemountain.org>

Scripture Reading: _____ (Psalm 67)

Prayer Time for Spiritual Awakening: _____

Worship Song: _____

Scripture Reading: _____ (Acts 26:17-18)

Prayer Time For Your One(s) By Name: _____

*Idea: Hand everyone a sticky note, set up a cross at the front, have them write the name of their one(s) on the sticky note and stick it on the cross, and pray for them while at the cross.

Closing Song: _____

Prayer: _____

We can email you PowerPoint Slides for the Prayer Meetings.

10 Specific Prayers for Revival & Spiritual Awakening

- 1. Ask God to bring deep conviction of sin, spiritual brokenness, a holy fear of God and genuine repentance among His people.** There will be no revival without these elements and only God can produce them in His people. After all we cannot program or work up genuine brokenness and repentance. (2 Corinthians 7:10)
- 2. Pray for deep cleansing, genuine repentance, and spiritual power to engulf pastors and Christian leaders.** Revival and spiritual awakening are extremely unlikely without a mighty move of God in pastors and Christian leaders. Renewed pastors are absolutely crucial to a move of God in our day! (Ephesians 6:14-20)
- 3. Pray for God to bestow spiritual hunger in His people and draw them to fervent intercession.** God has to grant people the genuine faith and the fervent desire for prayer. With all our promotion and programming, we cannot “produce a genuine prayer movement. (Philippians 2:13)
- 4. Pray that God will bring loving unity in our churches and a deep harmony between our churches.** Many churches need healing among members and many churches need to stop competing jealously with other churches. (John 13:35)
- 5. Pray for God to fill His people with a passion to see people saved.** (Only God can give a genuine burden for souls.) Until God’s people intensely pray for the lost and do aggressive soul winning revival will tarry. Be sure you are constantly praying for many lost people by name. (Romans 9:1-3)
- 6. Pray for God to give His people a passion for missions and starting churches.** Great revivals produce an explosion of mission projects, new ministries and new church starts. Only God can grant a genuine passion for missions. (Matthew 28:19)
- 7. Pray that God will call thousands into ministry, missions and Christian service.** Many churches are dying for lack of soul winners, teachers and church workers. Furthermore, we can start only as many churches as we have church planters to start them. (Matthew 9:37)
- 8. Pray that God will pour out His Spirit like a mighty purifying flood.** Ask God to purify our “motives as we pray for revival. After all it is possible to pray for revival for selfish or ambitious reasons. Our motives must be solely for: (a) the glory of God, and (b) the increase of the kingdom of God. We must not pray for revival just to solve our own problems or make our church successful in the eyes of men. (James 4:2)
- 9. Pray for a mighty move of conviction and salvation upon communities of cultural influence.** Some key examples are Hollywood actors and producers, government officials, educators, teachers, and college professors, news and media people, talk shows hosts, comedians, homosexual activists groups, and the music industry. (1 Timothy 2:1-2) Provide specific lists for your congregation.
- 10. Specifically pray for God to pour out His Spirit in a fashion even greater than He did in America in 1858 and Wales in 1904.** (Ten percent of Wales’ population was saved in five months!) Ask God for a modern day of Pentecost in the United States and Canada. (Mark 11:22-24; John 14:13-14.)
(Copied by permission from *A Powerful Prayer Life* by Gregory Frizzell)

<https://www.absc.org/articles/10-specific-prayers-for-revival-spiritual-awakening>

7 Scriptural Prayers for the Lost

1.) Praying for Open Eyes (Acts 26:18)

Jesus commissioned and sent the Apostle Paul out on mission, just as Jesus has also commanded us to do!

Pray: Father, show me how to pray in such a way that people's eyes are opened so that they may turn from darkness to light and from the grip of Satan to the freedom of God. Your word commands us to go into the world so that the lost may receive the forgiveness of their sins and an inheritance among those who have been sanctified by faith in You! Use me to reach my family, my neighbors, my city and beyond so that You alone will receive the glory! And when eyes are opened may they see and experience new life forever.

Listen: Take some time to wait expectantly before the Father. What is God revealing to your heart? Is there a response, a change, an act of repentance or forgiveness that needs to be paid attention to? Is God showing you a next step towards being the answer to the prayer you just prayed?

2.) Salvation for the Lost Should Be Our Heart's Desire (Romans 10:1)

Paul was in anguish over the lost in Israel. Do we share his grief for the lost next door, in our families, at our workplaces, in our nation and across the earth?

Pray: Lord God Almighty, touch my heart so that it longs for the salvation of every person in every nation on earth. May Your Spirit deepen my anguish over those lost in darkness. I cry out to You to give Jesus His inheritance – the ends of the earth!

Listen...

3.) The Good and Acceptable Prayer (1 Timothy 2:1-4)

God doesn't want our lives to be hurried, out of control and frantic. He wants us to lead tranquil and quiet lives in godliness and dignity. This is possible when we pray for others (especially our leaders and those in authority to come under the Lordship of Jesus Christ.

Pray: Father, because You desire all to be saved and to know the truth, that is on my heart also. May I be faithful to pray for all of the men, women and children you place upon my heart and give me a burden to seek You on their behalf. Help me to always pray for those in authority so that we may lead a tranquil and quiet life in all godliness and dignity.

Listen...

4.) The God Who Is Always On Time (2 Peter 3:9)

We are an impatient people, used to getting what we want instantly. We are even impatient in prayer, wanting results more than we want to wait upon God's timing. Let's choose to believe He is at work in the lives of those for whom we pray and that He will bring their salvation about at the perfect time.

Pray: Father God, You are always right on time, even when I am anxious for answers or results. Help me to faithfully pray for friends, family members, neighbors, co-workers and others who have not yet declared that You are Savior and Lord of their lives. You love every person and want them all to be a part of Your forever kingdom. May I faithfully pray for all of those You put in my path to be drawn to You!

Listen...

5.) The Savior Who Seeks the Lost (Luke 19:10)

Perhaps no one comes to Christ apart from the prayers of at least one other person. We won't be able to verify this until heaven; however, more people will have the opportunity to come to Christ if we pray than if we don't.

Pray: Lord, because You came to earth, I have been saved for the purpose of living a life that is Christlike and to pray for the salvation of all who are lost. You found me when I was lost and living apart from the fullness of life You promise to those who love You. Thank You for allowing someone to pray for my salvation, for putting people in my life to speak of You, and for convicting my heart through Your Holy Spirit of the sin in my life. Thank You for the greatest act of sacrificial love – dying on a cross for my salvation and the salvation of all those who have yet to call You Lord and Savior. May I have the privilege of praying thousands into Your kingdom!

Listen...

6.) Prayer for Blinded Minds (2 Corinthians 4:4)

Because Satan has blinded the minds of those who have yet to know Christ, their minds need to be opened to see the true light of His gospel. As we pray, God moves to change hearts and minds. He makes a way in the most difficult of circumstances for those who are lost to be saved.

Pray: Lord God Almighty, we pray for the light of the gospel of the glory of Christ Jesus, who is Your very image, to be made known to those who are lost. Draw them to Yourself as we seek Your face and ask that in Your mercy, You will move to remove whatever is blocking their minds to receive the gospel. Let them see the futility of going their own way and the blessing of embracing the life-giving Savior. Show me how to help people draw closer to You.

Listen...

7.) Lord of the Harvest (Matthew 9:37-38)

Jesus made it very clear to His disciples what their mandate would be – bringing lost people into the kingdom. Never has there been a time in history when more people were in need of Jesus – all across the earth. Jesus said we are to “beseech” the Lord. Other words for beseech are implore, beg, and plead. Are we willing to pay the price of eternal life for countless loved ones, friends, neighbors, co-workers and even those we have never met?

Pray: Lord of the Harvest, awaken my heart more fully and move upon the hearts of those who have yet to discover their usefulness in the amazing harvest that is ripe and ready to be gathered. Give us compassion for those who are lost!

So many are wandering in darkness every single day, and so many others are completely without hope. Show me how to bring others with me to step into the harvest field together. May we be faithful to pray earnestly for the lost who are unreachable by human contact, but who can be reached through the power of Your Spirit as we pray! We ask that You will raise up more workers, and more people who will tell their God stories to the lost across the street and around the world!

Listen...

<https://www.harvestprayer.com/7-scriptural-prayers-for-the-lost/>

Sermon Series Ideas

“Pray for One” (Romans 10:1-4)

“Brothers, my heart's desire and prayer to God for them is that they may be saved. 2 For I bear them witness that they have a zeal for God, but not according to knowledge. 3 For, being ignorant of the righteousness of God, and seeking to establish their own, they did not submit to God's righteousness. 4 For Christ is the end of the law for righteousness to everyone who believes.”

Our Desire & Dependence (v.1)

Their Deception & Defiance (vv.2-3)

God's Deliverance & Desire (v.4)

“Invite One” (Luke 14)

“23 And the master said to the servant, ‘Go out to the highways and hedges and compel people to come in, that my house may be filled.”

Contact Them (v.23a)

Compel Them (v.23b)

Connect Them (v.23c)

Challenge Them (vv.25-33)

“Bring One” (Luke 5:17-26)

“18 And behold, some men were bringing on a bed a man who was paralyzed, and they were seeking to bring him in and lay him before Jesus, 19 but finding no way to bring him in, because of the crowd, they went up on the roof and let him down with his bed through the tiles into the midst before Jesus. 20 And when he saw their faith, he said, “Man, your sins are forgiven you.”

Belief (v.18)

Boldness (v.19)

Blessings (v.20, 24-26)

**Sermon Series by
Jeff Parker**

“Our Mission From Christ”

Text: Luke 9:1-56

- I. Jesus Commissions us to **Go!** (Luke 9:1-9)
- II. Jesus Challenged us to **Give!** (Luke 9:10-17)
- III. Jesus Confirms our need to **Grow** (Luke 9:18-45)
- IV. Jesus Clarifies our need to **Glow!** (Luke 9:46-56)
- V. Will You Accept His Mission? (Luke 9:57-62)

Jesus Commissions us to GO!

Text: Luke 9:1-9

Message #1

Intro: Satan has been popping up from time to time influencing others. For example, the lawyers and Pharisees were questioning if Jesus was the Christ. Satan caused them to doubt Him, deny Him, and finally defy Him (Luke 7:41-50). There is no doubt that Satan was behind it all. The strongest resistance to sin was in the world and Satan took personal interest in Jesus' life like he did with Job's. Satan was the blinding force behind these Pharisees and lawyers (II Corinthians 4:4).

The first of this chapter starts out with the word *"Then"*. This word refers to the previous chapter that proves that Christ has the power over times of devastation, devils, diseases, and death. This chapter begins with a **Distribution of His Power**. You see, after Jesus opened the disciples' eyes to the fact that He is God, by proving that the power of God resided in Him, He gave these disciples power and position over devils and diseases. Jesus had cast out the Legion of devils in the maniac of Gadara. He had healed the diseased woman with the issue of blood. It was after these proofs that He called his twelve together and gave them power and position over these forces. Then:

I. He Commissioned them to Go! (Luke 9:1-9)

(A) Helplessly depending on Him (v.3)

- (1) God's protection *"staves"*
- (2) God's presence *"scrip"*
- (3) God's provision *"bread...money...two coats"* or food, finances, and fashion.

(B) Humbly depending on Hearers (v.4)

The hearer will be the means in which God will work through to supply the needs of his disciples.

(C) Heroically depending on Helpers (v.5-9)

- (1) It is in His sufficiency we get our Power (v.1)
- (2) It is His sending us to Preach (v.2)
- (3) It is His supplies we get our Provisions (v.3)
- (4) It is His servants that will Provide (4, 5)

They departed in obedience. These men preached and healed everywhere. Sermons and Signs were shared thorough out the towns everywhere. That is, everywhere people received them!

Think about this! After there was a Distribution of His Power there became a **Disturbance in the Palace** because of the Stories (v.7) and because of the Scriptures (v.8). The One that sent them out is greater and this is evident when we notice that Herod *desired to see him* and not them. The same is still true today. The world doesn't want to see us, they what to see Christ. Our mission is to point them to Him and not to ourselves.

Point to ponder: You don't go until you have been sent. How do you know when you have been sent? *"But ye shall receive power, after that the Holy Ghost is come upon you: and ye shall be witnesses unto me both in Jerusalem, and in all Judea, and in Samaria, and unto the uttermost parts of the world"* (Acts 1:8). Whose power are you operating in?

Jesus Challenges us to GIVE!

Text: Luke 9:10-17

Message #2

Intro: Jesus has visually shown the disciples that he is God. They were given something to look at (Luke 8:22-56). Now Jesus is verbally sharing with the disciples that He is God. They were given something to listen to. They must learn to trust His word. After Christ had shown His power over times of devastation, devils, diseases, and death, the Bible says “*Then*” He called the disciples together. There is a Distribution of His Power then:

I. He Commissioned them to Go (vs. 1-9)

You don't go until you have been sent. Today I want us to look at the second lesson the Disciples learned when:

II. He Challenged them to Give (v.10-17)

(A) Despite all they had Done (v.10)

They returned with news of their progress. Jesus took His obedient followers aside into a **Desert Place**. Are you surprised? It wasn't a celebration hall or holiday inn lounge. It was a desert. To the disciples, it was probably rewarding enough to see a happy expression on Christ face. O how shameful it would have been to expect more. He challenged them to give despite all they had done. Secondly, He challenged them to give:

(B) Despite all they had Drawn (v.11)

A large crowd was drawn to the place and person of the Lord Jesus Christ. The disciples had properly proclaimed the message and the people came to Christ. Jesus received them, preached to them, and healed those who had need. Jesus challenged them to give despite all they had done, drawn, and thirdly:

(C) Despite all their Dilemmas (v.12-17)

The Bible tells us that these disciples properly surveyed the place. It was a desert. To them, they were not in the right *place*, not enough money in the *purse*, and not enough *provisions* to disperse. They saw only dilemmas. Jesus taught them to:

(1) Bless what they have (v.16) - Surrender it over to God!

(2) Break what they have (v.16) - Share it with others!

(3) Bestow what they have (v.16) - Send it out!

The disciples had not yet realized the resources available to them. What is available may not look like much, but God can multiply it! How is this possible? They were seeing a firsthand illustration of the capability of the kingdom of God to satisfy this hungry world. Christ has commissioned them to Go and to Give.

Point to ponder: You don't Give out of your sufficiency!

Jesus Confirms Our need to GROW

Text: Luke 9:18-45

Message #3

Intro: Jesus has visually shown the disciples that he is God. They were given something to look at (Luke 8:22-56). Now Jesus is verbally sharing with the disciples that He is God. They were given something to listen to. They must learn to trust His word. After Christ had shown His power over times of devastation, devils, diseases, and death, the Bible says *“Then”* He called the disciples together. There is a Distribution of His Power then:

I. He Commissioned them to Go (vs. 1-9)

You don't go until you have been sent.

II. He Challenged them to Give (v.10-17)

Despite all you've done, despite all you've drawn, and despite your entire dilemma; You don't Give out of your sufficiency! Today I want us to look at the third lesson the Disciple learned when:

III. He Confirms their need to Grow (vs.18-45)

In the explanation of the:

(A) Declaration of the Messiah (vs.18-21)

“But whom say ye that I am?” He pulled from Peter the great confession: *“The Christ of God.”* Why were they told not to tell anyone yet? There must first be the:

(B) Death of the Messiah (vs. 22-26)

(1) There must be a resurrection (v.22)

(2) There must be a reformation (vs. 23-26a)

(a) In desire - *“If any man will come after me”*

(b) In devotion - *“let him deny himself”*

(c) In development - *“take up his cross daily”*

(d) In drive - *“follow me”*

Jesus warns us that if a person spends his life trying to save his life he will lose it, but if a person will lose his life he will save it. Jesus clarifies this meaning by saying:

“For what is a man advantaged, if he gain the whole world, and lose himself, or be cast away? For whosoever shall be ashamed of me and of my words, of him shall the Son of man be ashamed when he shall come in his own glory, and in his Father's, and of the holy angels.” Luke 9:25, 26

The death of the Messiah must be understood by his followers; there must be a resurrection, a reformation and:

(3) There must be a revelation (v.26b)

Jesus is talking about the glorious appearing when He comes back physically to the earth (Rev. 19). The cares, riches and pleasures of this life must not be our hearts focus. All self-savers [v.24], self-sustainers [v.25], and self-serving [v.26] people will be ashamed on that day because they were ashamed of Christ and His words. A true believer continues to grow in their understanding of the resurrection of Christ, the reformation that will take place when a person truly follows Him, and the revelation of the Messiah. The Bible say,

"I am the LORD: that is my name: and my glory will I not give to another, neither my praise to graven images." Isaiah 42:8

Jesus is much more than a man. The disciples must grow in this aspect of the:

(C) Deity of the Messiah (vs. 27-36)

Peter, James, and John would remain silent of these things they saw in those days, because they still understood not. He is God!

(D) Deliverance of the Messiah (vs. 37-45)

The disciples failed to tell Jesus of this situation earlier (v.10). This devil was not cast out by the disciples. Why? One reason was because of this faithless and perverse generation (v.41). Secondly, this was *"the devil"* not a devil they were faced with. Like the days of Job [Job 1:8], Jesus was the most righteous resistance in the world and the devil took personal interest in Him. This was another season for the devil to tempt Christ and once again the devil is rebuked. Isaiah's prophecy still applied to the disciples (Isaiah 6:9). The Deliverance of the Messiah proves He is God.

(1) They must **Look** with their eyes (vs. 37-43)

It was the mighty power of God which Jesus did (v.43). The devil had been rebuked before them (v.43).

(2) They must **Listen** with their ears (vs.44,45)

The very small word *"Let"* tells us it was their choice to believe, for still they understood not. Jesus is God!

Point to ponder: You don't Grow without your studies!

Jesus Clarifies our need to GLOW!

Text: Luke 9:46-56

Message #4

Intro: Jesus has visually shown the disciples that he is God. They were given something to look at (Luke 8:22-56). Now Jesus is verbally sharing with the disciples that He is God. They were given something to listen to. They must learn to trust His word. After Christ had shown His power over times of devastation, devils, diseases, and death, the Bible says “*Then*” He called the disciples together. There is a Distribution of His Power then:

I. He Commissioned them to Go (vs. 1-9)

You don't go until you have been sent.

II. He Challenged them to Give (v.10-17)

Despite all you've done, despite all you've drawn, and despite all your dilemma; You don't Give out of your sufficiency!

III. He Confirms their need to Grow (vs.18-45)

In the explanation of the Declaration of the Messiah (vs.18-21), Death of the Messiah (vs. 22-26), Deity of the Messiah (vs. 27-36), and the Deliverance of the Messiah (vs. 37-45)

Once again, they were given something to **Look** at (vs. 37-43) and they were told to **Listen** (vs.44, 45). The very small word “*Let*” tells us it was their choice to believe, for still they understood not. Jesus is God! You don't Grow without your studies!

Today I want us to look at the fourth lesson the Disciple learned when:

IV. He Clarifies their need to Glow (vs. 46-62)

(A) They should have a spirit of Serving not Degradation (vs.46-48)

Their hearts were upon self; in this their heart was unified; being selfish is a universal problem. Jesus proclaimed that the heart should be upon serving, for serving proves who is the greatest! Why? Because He has told them to Go, Give and now Grow or they would not Glow as their Savior. We either identify with sin or the Savior. Can Jesus Sanctify and set you beside Him as this child? Are you allowing Him to do this? The greatest was among them for Jesus is God and He had come to *serve, sanctify, and set* His disciples in the position that pleases Him, in order to *send* them out, Messengers to *Shine*! Like a child, stature doesn't matter service does! Jesus is Greatest because He served!

(B) They should have a spirit of Serving not Separation (vs.49, 50)

A man had been going around casting out devils in Jesus' name. The disciples stopped him because he was not sent when they were or because he was not one of them. Servants are not sent out to spend their time dividing people into categories. Our objective is to send the light not stop the light. There should be harmony with those who do God's work.

(C) They should have a spirit of Serving not Annihilation (51-56)

Three times we are told about Jesus' face; once that He *set his face*, secondly, that He *sent messengers before his face*, and thirdly, the Samaritans did not receive Jesus because *His face was as though he would go to Jerusalem*. I believe this is what Jesus meant by serving. It should be seen in the servant's face that he or she is on a mission from God! We are living in the dispensation of Grace and where sin abound grace much more should abound. The disciples were told earlier that if someone would not receive them, they were to shake off the very dust from their feet as a testimony against them (v.5) not to call down fire.

Point to ponder: You don't Glow until you become a servant! Some say I serve my children! Who are you really serving? Some may say, I serve my grandchildren! Who are you really serving? Outside of your family, who are you serving?

These are some of the things that Jesus shows us in this chapter.

- You don't Go until you are sent!
- You don't Give out of your sufficiency!
- You don't Grow without your studies!
- You don't Glow until you become a servant!

Prayer: Lord, help us to convince those who watch our lives that turning from the Cares, Riches, and Pleasures to become a servant for your kingdom is the greatest thing in this world.

Will You Accept His Mission?

Text: Luke 9:57-62

Message #5

I. Will You Accept The Commission To Go? (Luke 9:57, 58)

Will you give up your Place in the World?

In essence Christ was saying, "I don't have a Place!"

The man Desired To Go, but would he give up his place and be willing to be sent?

This was a test concerning the CARES of this Life (Luke 8:14a).

[Notice, He was not sent, it was his desire to go.]

II. Will You Accept The Challenge To Give? (Luke 9:59, 60)

Will you give up your Possessions in this World?

When Jesus says: "*Follow me*", we are to cut out all excuses and follow. The servants have been told to Go. The message of His kingdom must take first place in our life. In essence Christ was saying: "**Preaching is more important than possessions!**"

The Man was Directed To Go, but would he give up his possessions and trust God's sufficiency?

This was a test concerning the RICHES of this Life (Luke 8:14b).

[Notice, he was sent, for he was directed to go.]

III. Will You Accept The Confirmation Of Your Need To Grow? (Luke 9:61, 62)

Will you give up Pleasures in this World?

"*I will*", is with a future-tense in mind. What about right Now! Jesus is not saying that you should not say good-bye to your family and friends, which was what this man was saying. He is saying this doesn't come first! Farewell could have taken days or even weeks. The servant has all he needs to God when the Lord says Go! A person is not fit to be His servant if he or she is not willing to go at the moment Christ says Go!

In essence, Christ was saying: "**You are not fit for the kingdom of heaven so long as the pleasures of this life have your attention.**"

The Man Desired To Go, but would he give up the pleasures of this life to grow in his studies?

This was a test concerning the PLEASURES of this life (Luke 8:14c).

[Notice, like the first man, he was not sent, it was his desire to go.]

Conclusion: Two of these men were not sent out. They just desired to go. One was sent, but would not surrender to go, even though he was directed to go. The question that comes to mind is this: What prevents people from going, giving, and growing? Look at those two words in verse 59, 61, "**me first**". If you live your life with the attitude "*me first*", you will never glow with the presence of Christ. How well are you doing on the test? Who are those that Glow? Look at Luke 8:15 for your answer. Those that receive the Word of God!

Prayer: Lord, help us to convince those who watch our lives that turning from the Cares, Riches, and Pleasure to become a servant for Your kingdom is the greatest thing in this world.

Will You Accept His Mission?

Text: Luke 9:57-62

I. Will You Accept The Commission To _____? (Luke 9:57, 58)

Will you give up your _____ in the World?

In essence Christ was saying, "I don't have a Place!"

This was a test concerning the _____ of this Life (Luke 8:14a).

[Notice, He was not sent, it was his desire to go.]

II. Will You Accept The Challenge To _____? (Luke 9:59, 60)

Will you give up your _____ in this World?

In essence Christ was saying: **"Preaching is more important than possessions!"**

This was a test concerning the _____ of this Life (Luke 8:14b).

[Notice, he was sent, for he was directed to go.]

III. Will You Accept The Confirmation Of Your Need To Grow? (Luke 9:61, 62)

Will you give up _____ in this World?

In essence, Christ was saying: **"You are not fit for the kingdom of heaven so long as the pleasures of this life have your attention."**

This was a test concerning the PLEASURES of this life (Luke 8:14c).

[Notice, like the first man, he was not sent, it was his desire to go.]

Conclusion: The question that comes to mind is this: What prevents people from going, giving, growing, and glowing? Look at those two words in verse 59, 61, **"me first"**. If you live your life with the attitude *"me first"*, you will never glow with the presence of Christ. How well are you doing on the test? Who are those that Glow? Look at Luke 8:15 for your answer. Those that receive the Word of God!