

You Matter in God's Mission Small Group Guide

Warm-up Question: (Choose one, make up your own, or skip this part all together, depending upon the nature of your group.)

1. Have you ever played a team sport? If so, what was your position on the team and why?
2. When was the last time you moved to a new apartment or house? Did you have any help? What difference did the help (or lack thereof) mean for the moving project?

Read the following passages: Luke 10:1-3; Matthew 9:35-38.

After sending out the twelve disciples some time earlier, Jesus appointed seventy-two others and sent them out with instructions to go two-by-two as witnesses of the Kingdom. There was a striking sense of urgency in his instructions and with his reference to the "harvest." This language seems to imply something significant. The mission that Jesus was sending his disciples on was urgent in the same way that a farmer only has a certain period of time to bring in the harvest before the crop goes to waste. In addition, the disciples didn't go on this mission alone. They were sent together in pairs. Furthermore, they were to recognize that there was some danger or risk involved in this assignment. (They were going like lambs among wolves.) Most importantly they were to go on this mission with prayer, asking God for additional workers for the "harvest."

Questions for Discussion (Choose several that are relevant for your group):

1. Jesus commissioned his followers to go out to bring in the "harvest," something that implied great urgency. What is the urgency of this task? Do you feel that urgency yourself?
2. The seventy-two disciples were sent out in pairs. What would have been the wisdom of this approach?
3. Sometimes we experience hesitations to serving such as feeling unprepared or feeling like we aren't good enough to be used by God, or even having a lack of clarity about where help is needed. Is there anything that you can identify that has held you back from serving in God's mission?
4. In I Corinthians 12:21-27, Paul used a metaphor of a human body to explain how the different parts come together to function as a whole. Though each disciple of Jesus has particular capabilities and functions, it's only together with the rest of the church that the benefit is found. What abilities do you have that may be able to benefit the body of Christ? Are you actively serving in some way at Freedom Church? Why or why not?

5. What was your biggest personal takeaway from Luke 10:1-3 and Matthew 9:35-38? How will you apply it to your life?

Pray