Previously in Luke
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• Luke began by showing us the ministry of Jesus in and around Galilee.
• Then last week arrived at a turning point.
• Christ made clear to his disciples his identity as the Messiah.
• He then turned toward Jerusalem.
Luke 10

Introduction
Luke 10  Introduction

• The rest of Luke will focus on the last year or so of Jesus’ life.
• In this chapter we will see some important stories that only Dr. Luke shares with us.
• They are in none of the other Gospels.
Luke 10 Key Verse

- Luke 10:21 (ESV)

In that same hour he rejoiced in the Holy Spirit and said, “I thank you, Father, Lord of heaven and earth, that you have hidden these things from the wise and understanding and revealed them to little children; yes, Father, for such was your gracious will.”
Luke 10 Outline

1. Jesus Sends Seventy-two 10:1-12
2. Unrepentant Cities 10:13-16
3. The Seventy-two Return 10:17-20
4. Jesus Rejoices 10:21-24
5. The Good Samaritan 10:25-37
6. Martha and Mary 10:38-42
1. Jesus Sends Seventy-two 10:1-12
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- **10:1** Manuscripts here are split between *seventy* and *seventy-two*. Therefore, translations differ too.
- The main point, however, is that Jesus sent out a bunch more besides the Twelve.
1. Jesus Sends Seventy-two  

10:1 The number *seventy (two)* has some symbolism attached to it.

Some see the seventy elders of Israel going back to Moses and Mt. Sinai in *Exodus*, and again in *Numbers*.

Others see the *seventy nations* of the world represented, which goes back to *Genesis 10*. 
1. Jesus Sends Seventy-two  10:1-12

• 10:2  If you want a second key verse, this is a good choice.
• As long as we are breathing, this should request should remain one of our prayers.
• “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.”
1. Jesus Sends Seventy-two 10:1-12

- **10:3-9** Overall, this mission reminds us a lot of the sending of the Twelve.
- It shows that the task of Great Commission is not simply confined to them.
- **10:10-12** Our response to the gospel matters.
- Jesus will now make perfectly clear.
2. Unrepentant Cities 10:13-16
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• 10:13  Chorazin, Bethsaida
• Don’t worry if you can’t remember these places.
• Chorazin only shows up here and in the parallel verse in Matthew where Jesus is pronouncing this “Woe!”
• Bethsaida shows up a few more times, importantly as the hometown of the apostles Philip, Peter and Andrew.
2. Unrepentant Cities 10:13-16

• **10:16** This is an interesting and important chain.
• If we speak for Jesus, then it is just as if Jesus is speaking through us.
• Therefore, if someone rejects us because of our message, that person is rejecting Jesus.
2. Unrepentant Cities 10:13-16

• 10:16 And the one who rejects Jesus rejects God.
• That last statement is pretty exclusive.
• Jesus. Only through Jesus can we get to the Father.
3. The Seventy-two Return  10:17-20
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• 10:18 It is possible that Jesus is referring here to the passage in Isaiah 14:12-15.

12 “How you are fallen from heaven, O Day Star, son of Dawn! How you are cut down to the ground, you who laid the nations low!

13 You said in your heart, ‘I will ascend to heaven; above the stars of God ...
3. The Seventy-two Return 10:17-20

- **10:18** It is possible that Jesus is referring here to the passage in Isaiah 14:12-15.

... I will set my throne on high;
I will sit on the mount of assembly
in the far reaches of the north;
14 I will ascend above the heights of the clouds;
I will make myself like the Most High.’
15 But you are brought down to Sheol,
to the far reaches of the pit.
3. The Seventy-two Return  10:17-20

• If you have trusted in Jesus, then, unlike Satan/Lucifer, your name is written in heaven.
• Some people believe we cannot have assurance of our salvation. They think it sounds arrogant.
• It is not arrogant to say that we have received a gift that each and every other person has the same right to receive.
4. Jesus Rejoices 10:21-24
4. Jesus Rejoices  10:21-24

- Once again here is our key verse.
- **Luke 10:21**  (ESV)

In that same hour he rejoiced in the Holy Spirit and said, “I thank you, Father, Lord of heaven and earth, that you have hidden these things from the wise and understanding and revealed them to little children; yes, Father, for such was your gracious will.”
4. Jesus Rejoices  10:21-24

• Then, as now, the world is full of big shots.
• Some of them are religious superstars – the Dalai Lama or somebody like that.
• Some are the high rollers in business – Elon Musk, Jeff Bezos or Bill Gates.
• Some are of the political elite – name your (least) favorite.
• Knowing Jesus is the greatest privilege of all.
I love 1 Corinthians 1:26-29 and it relates to this very thing.

26 For consider your calling, brothers: not many of you were wise according to worldly standards, not many were powerful, not many were of noble birth. 27 But God chose what is foolish in the world to shame the wise; God chose what is weak in the world to shame the strong; 28 God chose what is low and despised in the world, even things that are not, to bring to nothing things that are, 29 so that no human being might boast in the presence of God.
Let’s take a look now at one of those big shots.

A lawyer will approach Jesus “to put him to the test.”

Jesus will turn his question into a test for the lawyer.
5. The Good Samaritan  10:25-37
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- **10:25-28** My personal opinion is that this man may have heard Jesus talk about this Great Commandment earlier.
- Then, knowing what Jesus would say, he used it as a set up for his next question in v.29.
- As always, Christ was ready for him.
5. The Good Samaritan 10:25-37

The Jericho Road

Photo from:
5. The Good Samaritan  10:25-37

• The Jews and the mixed-race Samaritans were enemies, being somewhat related both religiously and by blood.

• A Samaritan was far more likely to be the brunt of a joke or a villain in a story rather than the hero.

• Today Jesus might say, “But a Palestinian Arab, as he journeyed …”
5. The Good Samaritan 10:25-37

• Some commentators explore reasons why the priest and the Levite both “passed by on the other side.”
• Perhaps it was to avoid uncleanness or something.
• But this is a parable and the characters are fictional.
• The whole point is, simply, that they both “passed by on the other side - and the Samaritan did not.”
5. The Good Samaritan  10:25-37

• **10:36**  You go, and do likewise.
• **Q:**  So who is our neighbor?
• **A:**  Anyone whose need we can realistically meet.
• It might be the Muslim or the atheist next door – or the guy from Honduras who works on your house’s foundation.
5. The Good Samaritan 10:25-37

Three Lessons (courtesy of Craig Blomberg):

1. From the priest and Levite we learn that religious status and ritual purity do not excuse a lack of love.

2. From the Samaritan we learn to show compassion to those in need despite any religious or ethnic barriers that divide us.

3. From the man in the ditch we learn that even our enemy is our neighbor.
6. Martha and Mary 10:38-42
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• We can probably understand that Martha’s serving was not in itself the problem. Hospitality is good.

• The problem was that she was “distracted with much serving” and upset with her sister.

• For that, Jesus was unwilling to support her cause.

• As far as he was concerned, Mary was right.
What we do with Christ is far more important than what we do for Christ, for submission leads to obedience and service. \(^2\)

– Warren Wiersbe (1929 – 2019), pastor, Bible commentator, Indiana native
6. Martha and Mary  

- Make it a point this week to spend some extra time at the feet of Jesus.
- Listen to his teaching.
- Open your heart to what he has to say to you at a personal, individual level.
Luke 10  What We Just Read

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Luke 10  Key Points
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• The sending of the seventy-two reminds us that the task of mission is for the church and not just for the apostles.
• Jesus also made clear the weighty, eternal, consequences involved in receiving or rejecting the message.
• The Good Samaritan reminds us that the “neighbor” we need to love might come dressed as our enemy in need.
• Martha and Mary teach us that listening to Jesus has to take priority over serving him.
• Then, service will naturally flow out of what we learn.
Luke 10  A Prayer
Luke 10  A Prayer

• Father in Heaven,

• Thank you for revealing yourself to us even though we are not the great, mighty or wise of this world. If the last will be first, and so on, then we are happy to take the lower place now if it means that we get to know you.

• As Jesus tells us, the harvest is large and the laborers are few. We pray earnestly that you would send laborers into your harvest.
Like the seventy-two, we can see that all of us can play a part in the task of mission. Help us to receive you sincerely knowing that we also need to be ready to be sent.

And then help us to be ready to serve our neighbor in need, no matter who that neighbor is.
Luke 10   A Prayer

• Finally, make us the kind of people who will listen to and learn from Jesus. Even as we serve, we never want our work to somehow stand in the way of our relationship with him.

• In Christ,

• Amen.
Luke 10 References
