

PREPARING THE WAY (Part 2)

We introduced an idea to you last week entitled, “PREPARING THE WAY.” This is taken from our 2026 Focus which is based on a dream we received earlier in the year. In this dream the men of our church were preparing (or planning) a wedding. In Scripture weddings are often a metaphor for the coming of Christ.

Now, because the men of our church were heavily involved in the planning of this wedding, we took that to mean that God is calling men to take a prominent role in preparing for Christ’s coming.

This idea of “preparing the way” is dealt with in detail in [Luke 9](#).

Luke 9:52

52 And sent messengers before his face: and they went, and entered into a village of the Samaritans, to make ready for him.

In this passage, Jesus is preparing to enter a new city. Obviously, you don’t want to enter a new city, particularly one where you planned to stay overnight, without “calling ahead” to make preparations. Since, “calling ahead” was not an option in that day, Jesus *sent* men “before his face” to make preparations.

The reason we’re talking about this is because we see the IDENTICAL phrase (“before his face”) used just a few verses later!

Luke 10:1

1 After these things the Lord appointed other seventy also, and sent them two and two before his face into every city and place, whither he himself would come.

Notice, the 70 were sent on a similar mission (“before His face”) as the men in [Luke 9:52](#)! Only this time, the 70 were sent to prepare HEARTS, rather than prepare HOUSING, for Christ.

My question is, “What are you doing to prepare YOUR home for Christ?”

There are actually 7 things that are required to prepare your home for Christ...

PREPARATION REQUIRES PARTNERSHIP

Luke 10:1

1 After these things the Lord appointed other seventy also, and sent them two and two before his face into every city and place, whither he himself would come.

Notice, when Jesus sent the 70 to prepare the way for His coming, He sent them out in TEAMS OF TWO. Therefore, preparation is not a solo mission/one-man job!

Ecclesiastes 4:9–10

9 Two are better than one; because they have a good reward for their labour. 10 For if they fall, the one will lift up his fellow: but woe to him that is alone when he falleth; for he hath not another to help him up.

PREPARATION REQUIRES PRAYER

Luke 10:2

2 Therefore said he unto them, The harvest truly is great, but the labourers are few: pray ye therefore the Lord of the harvest, that he would send forth labourers into his harvest.

This is a reminder that preparation begins on our knees.

1 Corinthians 3:6

6 I have planted, Apollos watered; but God gave the increase.

This is why we need to be praying—because no amount of effort can replace God. He’s the Lord of the harvest. He is the one who gives INCREASE.

PREPARATION REQUIRES COURAGE

Luke 10:3

3 Go your ways: behold, I send you forth as lambs among wolves.

You might feel like you’re being “thrown to the wolves” or being put in an impossible situation). First, don’t panic. Second, understand being courageous is not about being aggressive or defensive. Remember that you’re being sent as a lamb, not a lion. So, be gentle.

James 3:18

18 And the fruit of righteousness is sown in peace of them that make peace.

PREPARATION REQUIRES FAITH

Luke 10:4

4 Carry neither purse, nor scrip, nor shoes: and salute no man by the way.

The idea here is they were not to worry about provisions. This is a reminder that our success will not be determined by what we bring to the table. Our success will be determined by our ability to rely on God!

PREPARATION REQUIRES DISCERNMENT

Luke 10:5–6 KJV 1900

5 And into whatsoever house ye enter, first say, Peace be to this house. 6 And if the son of peace be there, your peace shall rest upon it: if not, it shall turn to you again.

Notice, those who are preparing the way need a level of discernment. You must be able to detect when you're having success and when you're not. If it seems like your efforts are not being welcomed, don't force the issue. Preparation is not coercion.

PREPARATION REQUIRES RESILIENCE

Luke 10:10–11

10 But into whatsoever city ye enter, and they receive you not, go your ways out into the streets of the same, and say, 11 Even the very dust of your city, which cleaveth on us, we do wipe off against you...

This is a reminder that we must learn to continue in spite of being rejected. Let it roll off your back and keep pressing forward. Remember, everyone is not going to receive your message/efforts no matter how sincere they may be.

PREPARATION REQUIRES HUMILITY

Luke 10:21

21 In that hour Jesus rejoiced in spirit, and said, I thank thee, O Father, Lord of heaven and earth, that thou hast hid these things from the wise and prudent, and hast revealed them unto babes: even so, Father; for so it seemed good in thy sight.

These words come after the 70 returned from their mission. Jesus says, "I thank you, Father...for you have revealed these things to BABES!" Meaning, the understanding and wisdom which they operated in came directly from God. Moreover, it came to them because they were HUMBLE.

Lastly, Jesus speaks a final benediction over the 70.

Luke 10:23–24

23 And he turned him unto his disciples, and said privately, Blessed are the eyes which see the things that ye see: 24 For I tell you, that many prophets and kings have desired to see those things which ye see, and have not seen them; and to hear those things which ye hear, and have not heard them.

Notice, the eyes of the 70 saw things that many of the greatest “prophets” wished they could have seen!

This fact actually ties back in to our dream. In our dream, the men in our church were involved in the preparation of the wedding. However, two men in particular played a key role in that preparation and one of them was ‘Merlin.’

If you’re familiar with the TALES OF KING ARTHUR, you know that ‘Merlin’ was a magician or ‘seer.’ In fact, he was the GREATEST of all seers (prophets).

Thus, the reason ‘Merlin’ is playing a key role in the preparation of the wedding is because the men God will use to prepare for Christ’s coming will have “eyes” to see things that the greatest prophets never saw!

So, this is what God is calling men to do—

He’s calling for **perception**. He’s looking for men to survey the terrain/land and determine if there are any “obstacles” that need to be removed or any “high places” that need to be leveled.

He’s also calling for **preparation**. He’s looking for men to “prepare the way” by modeling prayer, repentance and faith. (You might not be able to “make” your family believe, but you can prepare the way by modeling faith!)

Men, if the ground of our home is HARD, then the problem is not with the seed. The problem is with our lack of perception or preparation. So, survey your home, remove the obstacles, level your pride and pray for a harvest!