

JESUS DEVELOPS HIS DISCIPLES | Luke 9:1-26 | PASTOR MARK BOFILL | 11/16/25

I. Mission (1-6) | II. Confusion (7-9) | III. Reposition (10-11) | IV. Distribution (12-17) | V. Confession (18-20) | VI. Prediction (21-22) | VII. Determination (23-26)

INTRO: In the last few chapters of **Luke (5:1-8:56)** we learned that **Jesus demonstrated His Kingdom Ministry for His chosen disciples to OBSERVE**. – They saw Him preach, heal, cast out demons, pray, and handle various social and religious situations. **But now in (Chapter 9)** it was time for the disciples to **PRACTICE** what they learned, by doing what Jesus did. – This is how **JESUS DEVELOPS HIS DISCIPLES!**

I. MISSION (1-6) – **READ: *Entering the Mission Field*:** Jesus **“called”** His disciples together. He specifically gave them the opportunity to “go out” on their own. (*To represent Christ and do Kingdom work!*)

A. Jesus Gives Power (1) – But before doing so, Jesus gives them something that is very much needed to be successful in ministry... **Power and Authority!**

1. **The Word for Power** is **dunamis**, which denotes miraculous power, or dynamite power, power to do supernatural acts. (*Matt 10:1 specifies power to cast out demons!*)
2. **The Word for Authority** is **exousia**, which denotes; privilege, force, and delegated influence, it is the freedom or right to act. – **Permission to do what Jesus does!** (e.g., Acts 19:11-16)
3. **The Context Denotes** that Jesus is **giving the freedom and right to act with miraculous power over demonic strongholds and disease** (*As demonstrated in the previous chapter*)

B. Jesus Sent the Disciples to Preach (2) – They were to duplicate what they saw Jesus doing, i.e., preach the Gospel, and heal the sick. – To be a **“sent one,”** literally means to be an **Apostle**. – **Jesus is calls and sends people to preach the Gospel!** – He didn’t use media, He used people to spread the Good News. – **(1 Cor 1:21b) says, it pleased God through the foolishness of the message preached to save those who believe**. **P/A** – Jesus wants to send YOU; will you respond to the **GREAT COMMISSION?** (Matt 28:19-20)

C. Jesus’ Instructions for the Journey (3-6) – *When He calls, He also equips and provides!* **P/A** – We need to know that **Jesus’ calling is also His enablement!**

1. **Take No Provisions (3)** – **No extra supplies** were to be taken on the journey, **Why?** So, they would learn to depend on their heavenly Father to supply all of their needs in ministry. – The hardest thing for us today would probably be the prohibition of money... **“Take no money!”**
2. **Take Shelter in One Place (4)** – (Matt 10:11) tells us that as they went into a town, they were to **“inquire”** who was worthy and were to stay with them until they leave that place. (*i.e., don’t hop around*)
3. **Take Heed to Their Reception (5)** – *i.e., if they were received for the sake of the Gospel, or if they rejected the Gospel*. – They were instructed to **literally shake the dust off of the feet if rejected**, which served as a testimony against them. (*i.e. have no part with them! - Don’t force it on them!*)
4. **Take Off (6)** – As Jesus went through every city (Luke 8:1), He sends His disciples to do the same. (*What you have learned, go and do!*)

P/A – Directions Needed! – Likewise, Jesus calls and sends US on mission! – **This responsibility is given to Everyone who is a TRUE disciple of Jesus Christ**. – He gives US the **Power and Authority to GO!** – Our mission is a commission to MAKE DISCIPLES (Matt 28:18-20). – *And if He commands us to go, we better take heed to His instructions... Jesus must be the Source behind our co-MISSION!*

II. CONFUSION (7-9) – **READ: *Encounter Requested*:** As the Gospel was being preached and miracles were taking place by Jesus, news eventually traveled to HEROD, the Governor.

- Herod Antipas was a 1st-century Herodian ruler of Galilee and Perea. He bore the title of **tetrarch** ("ruler of a quarter") and is also referred to as "**King Herod.**"

A. He Heard Reports (7-8) – Herod apparently got wind of these events and became "**Perplexed.**" – The Grk. word *disporeo*, means "highly doubtful" or **to be troubled**. Rightly so, because of his guilty conscience over the murder of John the Baptist. – **A bad conscience brings confusion and perplexity.**

B. His Own Conclusions (9) – **Herod had a desire to see Jesus.** – However, his motives were wrong! (Luke 23:8-11) reveals that **Herod just wanted to see a miracle**, and when He didn't get one, Herod treated Jesus with contempt.

- There will always be people who desire to be entertained. These are the **ones who have to see to believe**. Jesus knew this about Herod, therefore, He neither said nor did anything for Herod!

P/A – *Discernment Needed!* – Many People are **CONFUSED** about the Kingdom of God and who Jesus Christ is. We must also **be aware** that there are many who seek Jesus with the wrong motives. – We then have to be as *wise as serpents and gentle as doves*. (*Preach to those who respond to truth!*)

III. REPOSITION (10-11) – **READ: *Excitement and Exhaustion*:** Here we see the report of the **Apostles (10a)** – *Filled with awe and excitement*, the disciples **couldn't wait to tell their Master** of their many experiences. – However, *Luke doesn't focus on 'what they did,'* but on the reaction of their Master Teacher. – He knew that they were **Excited**, but He also knew that they were Exhausted, and in much need of **some R&R**. (*A great lesson to be learned here...they needed to find a...*)

A. Resting Place (10b) – In (Mark 6:31) Jesus said, "**Come Aside**" to rest in **a deserted place**. – He wanted to **Teach Them** that after an awesome time of ministry, one needs to rest and replenish their spiritual focus, so that they don't get burned out. – In (Matt 11:28-29a) Jesus declared, *Come to Me, all you who labor and are heavy laden, and I will give you rest. ²⁹Take My yoke upon you and learn from Me...*

B. Responsibility in Ministry (11) – *The great lesson here is that; even when you are tired*, ministry is always there. There are always needs to be met (i.e., *healing, feeding, counseling, etc.*). – **How do we know when to when to rest?** – Jesus Received them, Ministered, then He Repositioned Later!

P/A – *Deserted Place Needed!* – Ministry is Constant, you can't do it in your own strength! – We must learn to find the time and place to rest and recharge. – Learn to REPOSITION yourself, to be ready for future ministry opportunities when they present themselves.

IV. DISTRIBUTION (12-17) – **READ: *Excusing the Crowd*:** In (v.12) we read that *the day drew to a close*, and the disciples grew so tired that they asked Jesus to send the people away! (*Good intentions but lacking spiritual direction*). – Remember... **Ministry is to people** ... **Serve them, don't send them away!**

A. Recognition of Supplies (13) – Here we see *a Patient Teacher* who doesn't get upset with them. He simply **PREPARED THEM** for the next lesson; and a miraculous one at that. – *Jesus asked His disciples to "give them something to eat."* – They people were hungry, weary, and far from home. *So,*

- He challenged their **Resourcefulness!** – But especially their **Compassion**, and their **Faith!**
- They provided a **realistic response**, "*we only have 5 loaves and two fish.*"
- Jesus was ready to teach them how to meet the need with a Spiritual Response!

B. Ready for a Miracle (14-17) – Luke adds that there was *about 5,000 men present*. If women and children were included, the multitude could have been as much as 20,000 hungry people!

1. Jesus Gives Instructions (14-15) – Jesus said, *“sit them down In groups of fifty.”* WHY? Because Jesus always did ministry in an orderly way. **A meal is something to be enjoyed... not rushed!**

2. Jesus Calls upon the Father (16) – *He took their insufficient supply and Looked Up!* – Jesus did not bless the food... **HE BLESSED THE FATHER** for the supplying the need! – Jesus would later teach this in – *Give us this day our daily bread* (Luke 11:3) – *We are to look to the Father for...*

- a. **The Production (16a)** – God is the Manufacturer of the needed supply! (*Accessed by prayer*)
- b. **The Distribution (16b)** – Notice that Jesus GAVE the food back to the disciples, who in turn became the **DISTRIBUTORS** of it.
- **IMPORTANT LESSON:** If God is the Manufacturer and the Disciples are only Distributors, this radically changes our efforts in ministry!
- **Our ministry efforts are insufficient without Jesus!** – But if we completely trust Him with everything, He can use our **skills and talents** to make a difference in other people's lives.

3. Jesus Fed Everyone (17) – They were *all filled*, and there was even a basketful left for each disciple in this valuable lesson. (*Each disciple much learn that God has exceedingly abundant supplies*)

P/A – Dependence on God! – The heart of Jesus is that of the Father, i.e., to provide for the needy! – But He also has lessons to teach all of us who claim to be His disciples. He wants to provide for the needy **but looks for His representatives to rely upon Him for the supplies.**

- Meeting the physical needs of people often prepares their hearts to receive care for their spiritual need! – We are to give them Jesus, who is the Bread of life! (John 6:35)

V.CONFESSION (18-20) – **READ: Examination of Identity** – Notice that **Jesus again reverts to Prayer alone!** (18a) – It was His way to Reposition Himself with the Father. – *The disciples joined.*

A. Posed Question (18) – As Jesus finished praying, He immediately went into **teacher mode:** *He asked what the general consensus of the crowds was concerning Himself.* – It's obvious that Jesus asked this because **He was going to use it to lead into a deeper... more personal question.**

B. Probable Answer (19) – The disciples rattled off the varying assumptions of **Jesus' identity:**

- Some saw Jesus as a herald of national repentance, **similar to John the Baptist.**
- Some assumed Jesus was a well-known miraculous worker, **similar to Elijah.**
- Some believed Jesus was **one of the ancient prophets**, as Moses foretold (Deut 18:15-19).

C. Peter's Conclusion (20) – Jesus cuts through the hearsay of others, asking, **“But who do YOU say that I am?”** – **PETER** was the first to answer his own hearts confession of who Jesus is...

1. **PETER knew Jesus to be the CHRIST OF GOD.** – God's Messiah, the promised redeemer from the Old Testament – Matthew's account says, **“You are the Christ, the Son of the Living God.”** (Matt 16:16). – **A Confession that came from a divine revelation above** (Matt 16:17).
2. Jesus asked because **HE DID NOT** want His Disciples to be **confused of His identity!**
3. Jesus asks the same from us... **Who YOU believe Jesus to be!** *Do you still believe that? ...*

- **Today, it's common to hear of many who have RENOUNCED JESUS CHRIST!** – In recent years Several Christian Artists have **Publicly Renounced** their faith or **“deconstructed it.”** – Kevin Max (*DC Talk*), Jon Steingard (*Hawk Nelson*), and Marty Sampson (*Hillsong*). And Countless others!
- Such Apostasy warns us... **We need to constantly keep ourselves Fresh in the Faith**, attend discipleship classes, and to hold one another accountable. **We are to forsake this world, NOT our faith in Jesus Christ!** – (Matt 10:32) **“Therefore whoever confesses Me before men, him I will also confess before My Father who is in heaven.”**

P/A – **Declaration Needed!** – While on mission, it's important to remember who Jesus is, because many only have their assumptions on who He is. **I encourage you to CONFESS JESUS before people!**

VI. PREDICTION (21-22) – **READ: Emphasizing Rejection: Upon Peter's Confession** Jesus unveiled His Own immediate future to them. – **He must suffer; He must be rejected** by the religious leaders of Israel, **He must be killed**, and **He must be raised the third day!** – **What a shock this must have been!** – Knowing that you have found the Savior, yet He WILL BE KILLED and TAKEN AWAY!

- **JESUS' Proclamation** was necessary to **DEVELOP HIS DISCIPLES!** – They had to learn it first!
- **The Prohibition** – **The Lord commanded them not to tell others...** Why? Once again, Nothing must interrupt His pathway to the cross! – All these things **MUST** take place!

P/A – **Devotion Needed!** – The disciples were forewarned of Jesus's crucifixion. – **But on the other side of the cross** they were to boldly attest to the Crucifixion and Resurrection of Jesus.

VII. DETERMINATION (23-26) – **READ: Entire Commitment Needed:** He gives a four-fold...

A. Challenge (23) – Notice the Condition! – **“If”**; Notice the Desire! – **“To Come After”**; Notice the Action! – **“Take up his cross daily.”** Notice the Direction – **“Follow Me!”** (*Do exactly what Jesus did!*)

- The challenge is founded on the phrase: **DENY HIMSELF!** *However, you still have a ...*

B. Choice (24) – In this life, everyone will choose either Life or Death; you can't blame anybody else for your decision. **The Phrase**, **“Whoever loses his life for My sake,”** is repeated in all four gospels!

C. Consideration (25-26) – This statement deals with what you value the most in life (25). **It's a PROFIT and LOST Statement!** – **Parties**, and **Pleasure**, and **Profit NOW** means **ETERNAL DAMNATION** in the afterlife. – **This world is temporary and will soon pass away!** (cf. 1 John 2:17).

- **Jesus also gives a defining statement** which exposes unbelievers (26) **“Whoever is ashamed of Me and My words, of him the Son of Man will be ashamed when He comes in His own glory...”**
- **So Many people claim to be Christians!** – **But to make such a claim** would mean that you are a Disciple or Follower of Jesus and His ways... **One, NOT ASHAMED of Him!** – But **by observation** I've witnessed many of those claims are FALSE CLAIMS... because they **DENY CHRIST: To Be ASHAMED** means that you don't want to be seen together in public; that you don't want to talk about Him; that you avoid Him when possible. – **Does this describe you?**

P/A – **Denial Needed!** – As believers in Jesus Christ, are you truly a Disciple/Learner? – Disciples, **Must be DEDICATED** to Jesus and the Commission that He calls us to. – The decision to **DENY Ourselves** and **take up our cross and walk as Christ**, is how **JESUS DEVELOPS HIS DISCIPLES.**