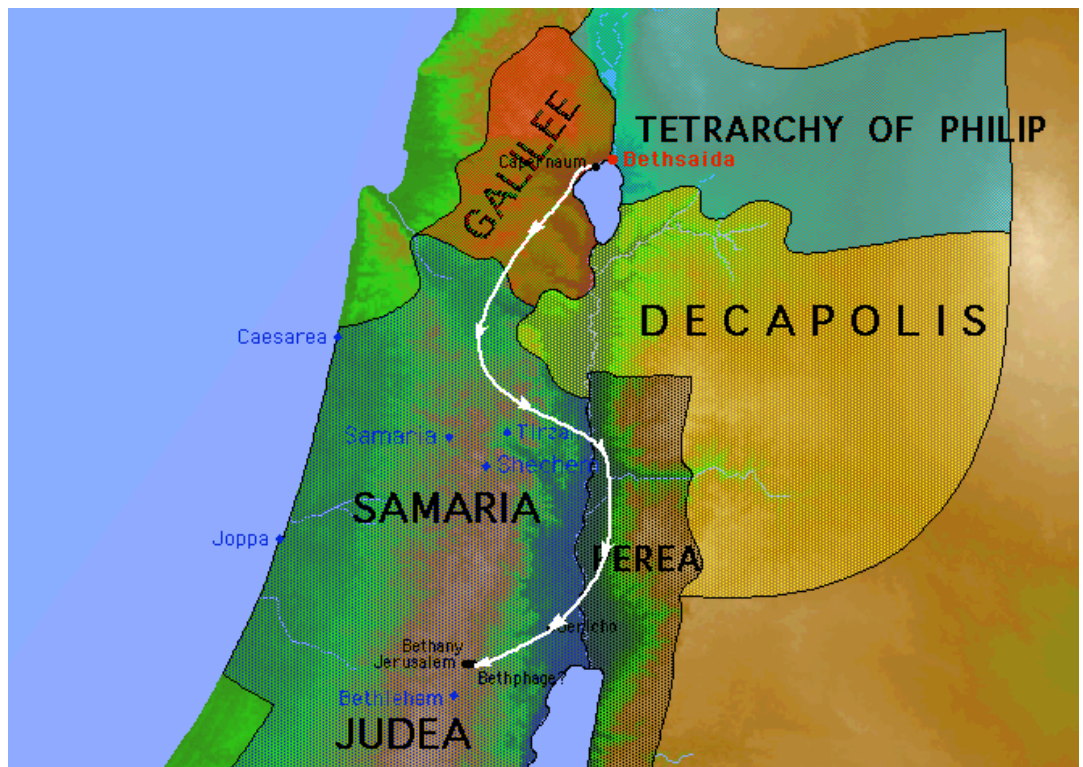


## Luke 10:1-24 – The Lord & his Messengers

### Personal Preparation 1 - Will he be welcome?

Up to this point, most of Jesus' ministry had been in and around the region of Galilee. As of Luke 9:51 though, Jesus is heading "resolutely" towards Jerusalem & the cross.

Here Luke records that he sends messengers ahead of him to prepare people (v.1).



#### Read Luke 10:1-16.

1. Jesus has just spoken about the cost of following him (9:57-62), and now he's going to put that service to the test. In light of Luke 3:15-18, what's "the harvest" referring to in v.2?
2. What kind of reception does Jesus expect the 72 to receive (vv.3-11)? What's the reason behind Jesus instructions in this section?
3. What's the key message the 72 are to preach?

In the next few verses, Jesus singles out 3 towns for particular attention. We haven't heard of particular problems with these towns so far in Luke, but in Jesus summary statement of his ministry in Galilee, there's obviously been more going on than Luke has recorded.

4. What is the "greater" sin these towns in Galilee are charged with by Jesus in vv.12-15? (You might want to have a look at Genesis 19 to get some background and understanding as to the problem in Sodom...it's not necessarily what you'd think!) How will this be brought out in the mission and instructions of the 72 (v.4-11)?

5. What does Jesus identify as the heart of the problem (v.16)?

**FOR TODAY:** Do you think a rejection of you is a rejection of Jesus?

thoughts. questions. insights.

## Personal Preparation 2 – Father & Son

In the previous section (vv.1-16) we saw Jesus sending out the 72 with news of the kingdom, and the kind of reception he thought they'd get. In this section we get a glimpse of the privileges that await those who serve the coming Lord.

### Read Luke 10:17-24

1. The 72 are obviously on a high from the success of their mission, but what does Jesus see as the thing they should be rejoicing about? (v.17-20)

2. In vv.21-22, Jesus makes an amazing statement about those who understand and come to Him. How do people come to know the Father, and what kind of characteristics do they have? What evidence have you seen of this so far in Luke?

3. From vv.23-24, what do the disciples see & hear that makes them blessed? (Have a look also at Luke 2:25-32 for a similar idea)

4. What would you say the big idea of this section is? Does it complement or contradict vv.1-16?

**FOR TODAY:** In the Christian life, what is it that you rejoice about?

thoughts. questions. insights.

## Growth Group Discussion Questions

Please note, the notation in brackets at the start of the question is a reference to which Preparation questions will help with this question. i.e. P1.2 means Preparation 1, Question 2.

### Read Luke 10:1-24

1. What were the issues raised, question posed, new insights you had as you read Luke this week?
  
2. (P1.1) What kind of harvest is Jesus talking about in v.2? What does the idea of a harvest imply? Do we see this in the expectation of the response to the mission of the 72? (vv.3-11)
  
3. (P1.2,4) What is the connection between hospitality and acceptance of Jesus in vv.3-16? How does Genesis 19 fit into this?
  
4. (P2.3) What does Jesus say are the things both the 72 and disciples should be excited about? How does this contrast with what they are excited about, and what others in Luke have been amazed and excited about?
  
5. (P2.2,3) Jesus makes a pretty amazing statement in vv.21-22. Is this revelation troubling or comforting? How does vv.23-24 help?
  
6. How would you describe the relationship between Jesus & his followers today? When is rejection of Christians rejection of Jesus, and when is it not?
  
7. From what you see in this passage, how might you respond to the following suggestions:
  - ⦿ At work (or when dealing with those who aren't Christians), the important thing is not whether or not people are offended, but whether or not they hear the Gospel. I should do everything to make that possible.
  - ⦿ It's possible to be wild about God, but not so wild about Jesus.
  
8. How close a relationship do you think you have with Jesus? How is your answer similar or different to the assessment that Jesus gives about his relationship to his people? What does it look like to have a close relationship with Jesus?

**pray.**

- Thanking God for his great revelation to us in Christ!
- For our neighbourhood, that they would see the need to accept Christ & come to God.

**remember.**

- Love Your Neighbourhood - next week, 21st October. Invite your neighbours!