

## Watch the Prayer Focus video and pray

Plan to show the Prayer Focus video in your group. The video (about 3 minutes in length) can be viewed or downloaded from [cms.org.au/prayerfocuspacks](https://cms.org.au/prayerfocuspacks).

## Pray

Set aside time as a group to ask God to raise up workers for his harvest. Pray that your Bible study might take seriously the call to make disciples of all nations!

You can download or print the Prayer Focus prayer slides at [cms.org.au/prayerfocuspacks](https://cms.org.au/prayerfocuspacks) and use them to lead your group in a time of prayer for CMS and world mission.

## Get involved

To find out more about getting involved with CMS through prayer, care and giving, head to [cms.org.au/nswact](https://cms.org.au/nswact).

# Your part in God's harvest

Luke 10:1-24

## LEADER'S NOTES

### Introduction

If you had to do a TED style talk (a short presentation on any topic) about something you think could change people's lives, what topic would you speak on?

In Luke 9:51-19:48, the gospel writer Luke takes us on a journey with Jesus along the road to Jerusalem. In these chapters we find that Jesus is not walking towards triumph and victory as we would have expected, but towards suffering and death at the Cross. But this death will ultimately lead to salvation for those who turn to follow Jesus.

Along this journey Jesus shows and teaches his disciples what it will mean to truly be his follower – to take on a life of discipleship, in which they deny themselves, and give their lives in sacrificial service of others.

In Luke 10, some of the people who heard his message and want to follow him are about to be sent out on a mission. Jesus prays, prepares, and sends them to spread the great news that the Kingdom of God has come near.

Read Luke 10:1-24

1. From v1-12, what do we learn about:

- The people who are sent out
- The purpose of the mission
- How they are to prepare
- What their message is
- How their needs will be met

2. Jesus speaks about a great harvest in v1-3, but also of 'wolves' who will threaten the harvest workers. What examples can you see of these two things in the ministries you are involved in, and in our society today?

*We are sent out by Jesus into exciting but sometimes hostile environments. Spend time as a group sharing about the opportunities you see for sharing the gospel, as well as the potential challenges.*

3. What do you think Jesus is trying to teach about being a witness in v3-7?

*God will supply all we need for this valuable work, and he will give the opportunities for sharing the good news.*

4. Jesus refers to the Kingdom of God in v9 and v11. What is this? How does the Kingdom of God come near?

*The Kingdom of God is the reign or rule of God in the lives of people. Jesus himself brings the Kingdom near as he demonstrates God's power and through his life, death and resurrection.*

5. Read v10-12 and v13-16. How are the 72 to deal with the rejection they will receive? Do you think facing rejection is inevitable for the Christian life?

6. From v16, what does the people's responses to the 72 show about their attitude to God? Do you think the same is true today?

*Ultimately, the way people respond to those who bring the gospel to them is how they respond to Christ.*

7. How do those who were sent out describe their mission experience in v17-20? What were they excited about? How does Jesus respond to their report?

*The 72 were excited about the power that they had – but Jesus shows them that the power comes from him alone. He tells them not to rejoice in their power, but in their assured place in Heaven.*

8. How can v17-22 be helpful for us as we share the gospel with people, both when we see great results and when we don't see any transformation?

*We always rely on Christ's power and not our own. He is the one who changes hearts, protecting us from both pride (when we see good results) and despair (when we see no results).*

9. Jesus says that "the harvest is plentiful, but the workers are few" (Luke 10:2). How can we help one another represent and speak about Jesus in our communities?

10. How can we continue to support those who set out globally on mission? What part can you play in God's harvest field?

*This can be a launch point for thinking through next steps for your Bible study members, as they consider praying and caring for missionaries, giving financial support and even going out to serve on mission themselves.*

*As a Bible study, you might like to make a commitment to pray for God's mission each week, either by praying for your link missionaries, or choosing a new missionary your group can begin to partner with.*

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