

Taking the Leap to a Rock Solid Faith

Lonely Faith

Our culture has so many needs that it's overwhelming. No one organization can solve all the problems. In fact, all of the world's organizations together have been unable to solve the problems. It's too much. And yet, we all have a personal responsibility to do something ... to engage in a ministry that has the potential to change the world. But even that's too much. This week, we'll look at the world of a lonely faith ... because faith is too important to do alone.

Matthew 25:31–40

1. There are always more _____ that are needed than there are _____ to get them done.
2. There is great _____ to get into the “harvest field.”
3. Houses of peace provide _____, _____, _____, so that we can _____ to the “harvest field.”
4. Ministry isn't a solo act. God has given us _____ who goes before us, and _____ who go alongside us.

My Count Me In! Commitments

- I'll be here next Sunday
- I'll invite a friend
- I'll be a person of peace to someone I don't know well today
- I'll join the church in prayer at the Prayer Summit
- I'm ready to start the Directions Discipleship Course this month

Additional Notes

Digging Deeper and Going Further

We live in a culture that values independence and rugged individuality. But those are decidedly *not* Christian values. From the days of creation when God pronounced, “It is not good for a person to be alone” (Genesis 2:18) through Jesus’ modeling of sending out the apostles two by two, it’s clear that followers of Jesus are expected to depend on each other for matters of faith *and* matters of life. Just as there is no Christianity without the faith, there are no Christians without the church. Christianity is not a solo sport.

1. Read Luke 10:1. What are some reasons why Jesus would have sent the 72+12 out two-by-two?

2. Read Luke 10:2. In the face of fields and orchards with crops that are fully ripe, what are the consequences of having too few harvesters?

3. Read Luke 10:3–4. Why do you think Jesus pressed the apostles to go with such haste?

4. In verse 3, Jesus said he was sending the apostles out like sheep among wolves. What do you think Jesus meant by this?

5. Read Luke 10:3–8. What does Jesus say the mission of these “sheep” are in relation to the wolves?

6. What happens when “wolves” become “Christians”? And what is the effect on culture when that happens?

7. What do you think Dr. Bill means when he said, “You never go alone!”

8. What will you do to ensure no one is going alone (Including yourself)?
