

COMMUNITY GROUP GUIDE

③ Serve, Enjoy, Renew! The disciple of Jesus

INTRODUCTION | The disciple's mission

We tend to think that sharing the Gospel and talking about Jesus is a difficult task, but if we change our point of view, it could be the same as recommending a good restaurant to our friends. Today, we are studying the walk of the disciples as they fulfill their mission. It describes a life full of joy spent in spreading the good news of God's kingdom. We can find three perspectives: 1) What does life look like when you share the Gospel? 2) How do you practically share the Gospel? 3) What are the disciples' motivation and goal?

SCRIPTURE | Luke 10: 1-20

1 After this the Lord appointed seventy-two others and sent them on ahead of him, two by two, into every town and place where he himself was about to go. 2 And he said to them, "The harvest is plentiful, but the laborers are few. Therefore pray earnestly to the Lord of the harvest to send out laborers into his harvest. 3 Go your way; behold, I am sending you out as lambs in the midst of wolves. 4 Carry no moneybag, no knapsack, no sandals, and greet no one on the road. 5 Whatever house you enter, first say, 'Peace be to this house!' 6 And if a son of peace is there, your peace will rest upon him. But if not, it will return to you. 7 And remain in the same house, eating and drinking what they provide, for the laborer deserves his wages. Do not go from house to house. 8 Whenever you enter a town and they receive you, eat what is set before you. 9 Heal the sick in it and say to them, 'The kingdom of God has come near to you.' 10 But whenever you enter a town and they do not receive you, go into its streets and say, 11 'Even the dust of your town that clings to our feet we wipe off against you. Nevertheless know this, that the kingdom of God has come near.' 12 I tell you, it will be more bearable on that day for Sodom than for that town. 13 "Woe to you, Chorazin! Woe to you, Bethsaida! For if the mighty works done in you had been done in Tyre and Sidon, they would have repented long ago, sitting in sackcloth and ashes. 14 But it will be more bearable in the judgment for Tyre and Sidon than for you. 15 And you, Capernaum, will you be exalted to heaven? You shall be brought down to Hades. 16 "The one who hears you hears me, and the one who rejects you rejects me, and the one who rejects me rejects him who sent me." 17 The seventy-two returned with joy, saying, "Lord, even the demons are subject to us in your name!" 18 And he said to them, "I saw Satan fall like lightning from heaven. 19 Behold, I have given you authority to tread on serpents and scorpions, and over all the power of the enemy, and nothing shall hurt you. 20 Nevertheless, do not rejoice in this, that the spirits are subject to you, but rejoice that your names are written in heaven."

QUESTIONS |

- 1: (verses 1-2) What does Jesus order to the disciple concerning how to spend their lives? The disciples went ahead by groups of two. How do you want to share the Gospel?
- 2: (verses 3-9) What directions does Jesus give to the disciples? How should we apply them to our modern environment?
- 3: Jesus recommends to these 72 people to enter into other people's lives, trust in God only and share peace. What are the challenges you are facing when you share the Gospel? (reference: Jeremiah 29:4-7)
- 4: "Peace" refers to the salvation God provided through Jesus, the Hebrew word "shalom" is translated as "peace" or "prosperity" in the Bible. However, Christianity is often seen as an enemy by Japanese culture and traditions as it goes against them. What are the reasons for this? What do we need to share the Gospel with wisdom?
- 5: (verses 17-20) The disciples had amazing news when they went back to Jesus. What are the encouragements you can appropriate from these concerning your activities to share the Gospel?
- 6: What should be our motivation to share the Gospel according to Jesus? What kind of problem rises when we do not have the right motivation?

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REFERENCES |

Jeremiah 29: 5-7

5 Build houses and live in them; plant gardens and eat their produce. 6 Take wives and have sons and daughters; take wives for your sons, and give your daughters in marriage, that they may bear sons and daughters; multiply there, and do not decrease. 7 But seek the welfare of the city where I have sent you into exile, and pray to the Lord on its behalf, for in its welfare you will find your welfare.

PRAYER |

- Jesus gave us the mission of sharing the Gospel. Let's think again about what a wonderful thing it is and praise God in our prayers. You are saved thanks to the people who obeyed Jesus' commandment and transmitted the Gospel. Rejoice that your name is written in heaven and pray to become like those disciples.
- Pray for 3 or 4 specific people you want to share the Gospel with. Think of how you can enter into their lives and tell them about the Gospel.

UPCOMING EVENTS | This Week & Next Week

Community group leader's meeting (18), lunchtime meeting kick-off party (20)

Gospel-centered life ① (24), Gospel choir diner (25)

Gospel-centered life ② (31) lunchtime meeting (Kasumigaseki 3, Otemachi 4), obento project (6)