

2. Lambs Among Wolves

Start off with feedback from Sunday's message. What did those that were there - or those that have caught up online - take away from it? What encouraged them, what informed them and what challenged them?

Read Luke 10.1-24.

*After this the Lord appointed seventy others and sent them two by two ahead of him to every town and place where he was about to go. **2** He told them, 'The harvest is plentiful, but the workers are few. Ask the Lord of the harvest, therefore, to send out workers into his harvest field. **3** Go! I am sending you out like lambs among wolves. **4** Do not take a purse or bag or sandals; and do not greet anyone on the road.'*

- v2. *'The harvest is plentiful'*. What does this mean? Do you believe there's an abundance of people around you that are closer to faith than they may seem, or do you think most people are a million miles away? Is this statement from Jesus hard to believe?
- Which category of person in this account do you most identify with and why: the ordinary, weak follower of Jesus engaged in mission; the 'person of peace' who's unsure but open to the message; or the person that simply believes but doesn't actively engage with bringing God's Kingdom to their world? Who would you like to be?
- What would 'The World According to Jesus' (*The Kingdom of God*) look like in your situation? In other words – if Jesus was doing your job, living in your flat, involved with your friends, in charge of your money and so on – what things would be different, what would be the same?
- v19. *'I have given you authority'*. How does God's authority work and why is it not dependent on our ability or power? Have you had experience of this before and if so, what was it? How do you think a person goes about using the authority Jesus has given them?

Big Idea: 'Jesus gives weak people God's authority to bring His Kingdom.'

Split down into smaller groups of twos and threes. Ask the Lord of the harvest to send out workers into his harvest field. Commission one another to bring God's Kingdom to the various areas we're involved with. Pray for those who feel they are at the 'child of peace' stage. Pray for increased evidence of the Kingdom of God. Pray for each other to be healed if anyone is sick. Pray with humility and in the authority that Jesus gives.