



Sent

(Luke 9:1-17)

Introduction

1. [Series] Resonate: Tune into Jesus' frequency to amplify the gospel in your life & church, and to impact the culture.
2. Question: How often do you experience a sense of participating in something greater?
 - a. Do you believe that there's a great harvest for us? People God will save by using & sending us?

Jesus empowers His followers [Luke 9:1-6]

1. Background
 - a. [8:4-56] Jesus preaches the Kingdom and shows power/authority over nature, demons, sickness, death.
 - b. [5:10] Jesus calls disciples to be fishers of men.
 - c. [6:13] Jesus appoints 12 to be "apostles": Sent ones.
 - d. Up to this point, Jesus has done all the preaching & healing.
2. [9:1-2] Now, Jesus sends the apostles out with His power/authority
 - a. [9:1] Heal: To overcome demons & reverse disease.
 - b. [9:2] Proclaim the Kingdom: To be messengers of good news that the King & Kingdom have come to set people free from the effects of sin & death.
 - c. Application: If you follow Jesus, you are a "sent one" to proclaim good news about Jesus to all people.
3. Jesus empowers His followers to heal & preach.
 - a. [Jas 5] Pray for the sick because we know God can & does heal.
 - b. Cast out demons from those who suffer oppression (e.g., voices of accusation, condemnation).
 - c. Ask God to make the invisible Kingdom visible in a person's life.
 - d. Application: As you pray, let people know where that power/hope come from in Jesus as Lord, God & Savior.
4. [9:3-4] Jesus empowers His followers to depend on Him.
 - a. Apostles are instructed to travel light, without extra supplies, to depend on God to provide.
 - b. Application: Do you trust & depend on God to open opportunities to minister, bless, & build relationships?
 - i. Do you trust Jesus to provide wisdom, words & strength to minister to others?
 - ii. When you make sacrifices, do you trust & depend on Jesus to provide & meet your needs?
 - c. It's not about what we can do, but what He can do through us. When He sends, He will provide the means.
5. [9:5-6] Jesus empowers His followers to represent Him.
 - a. [9:5] If no one receives the good news, warn them with a sign of judgment.
 - b. Rejecting the disciples & good news is the same as rejecting Jesus (cf. Luke 10:10-16).
 - c. Application: Need to have a thicker skin & be OK with rejection because the gospel is polarizing.
 - d. [9:6] In obeying & depending on Jesus, they successfully preach & heal everywhere.

Jesus ministers through His followers in daily life [Luke 9:10-17]

1. [9:10-12] Jesus cares for people's needs.
 - a. [9:10] The apostles report about ministry done in Jesus' power/authority.
 - i. Jesus takes them on a retreat to rest & be renewed by Him.
 - b. [9:11] Crowds follow & Jesus welcomes them, preaches & heals some more.
 - c. [9:12] The exhausted apostles ask Jesus to send away the crowds for dinner at the end of a long day.

2. [9:13-14] Jesus teaches the apostles a lesson.
 - a. [9:13] Jesus instructs them to give the crowds something to eat.
 - i. Option 1: Take what they find (5 loaves, 2 fish; cf. John 6:9), & distribute as far as they will go.
 - ii. Option 2: Go back into town, buy food to feed everyone
 - b. [9:14a] Problem: There's over 5000 men, not including women & children (cf. Matt 14:21; John 6:7).
 - i. They are looking for manageable alternatives but have no idea where to go or what to do.
 - c. [9:14b] Solution: They forgot Option 3 – Ask Jesus to provide.
 - d. Application: How often we forget what Jesus has done for us & what He can do through us.
3. Main Idea: Disciples think they're "off-duty", but Jesus teaches that life is about ministry.
 - a. And ministry includes meeting the practical needs of daily life through Jesus.
 - b. Application: Every day, listen as Jesus points you to practical needs of people.
 - i. Pray for His blessing in this practical area.
 - ii. Point them to the source of the blessing, hope in Jesus.
4. [9:15-17] How Jesus ministers through us
 - a. [9:15] Jesus gives instructions; apostles obey.
 - i. Ministry starts from Jesus, & His followers carry it out.
 - b. [9:16] Jesus takes their limited resources, looks to His Father in prayer, blesses the people, breaks the bread.
 - i. "Edidou" [imperfect tense]: "kept giving them"; continuous, ongoing action
 - ii. Mode!: They turn to Jesus, He fills their hands, they give to others, turn back to Jesus, repeat.
 - iii. It is an ongoing, continuous dependence on Jesus to minister to others.
 - c. [9:17] When Jesus comes into a life, there is satisfaction & an overabundance of blessing.
 - d. Jesus chooses to distribute & minister through His followers as His chosen agents of good news.

Conclusion: A challenge

1. Nothing points everyday people toward Jesus better than when they see His miraculous power in everyday life.
 - a. This week: Look for opportunities to pray for sick/hurting people, broken families/lives.
 - b. Offer to pray right there that Jesus would make the invisible Kingdom of God visible in that person's life.
 - c. It's never about what we can do, but always about what Jesus can do; we're just His representatives.
 - d. Make known that the source of blessing, hope and life is Jesus.
2. Listen for promptings from Jesus to bless people & point them to Him; see if He doesn't continuously put the Bread of life into your hands to feed others.