



new life fellowship

Sermon Title: Encounters with Jesus: Mission, Fear and Trampling Scorpions

Speaker: Redd Sevilla, New Life CDC Executive Director

Scripture: Luke 10:1-20

After this the Lord appointed seventy-two others and sent them two by two ahead of him to every town and place where he was about to go. 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. Go! I am sending you out like lambs among wolves. Do not take a purse or bag or sandals; and do not greet anyone on the road.

"When you enter a house, first say, 'Peace to this house.' If someone who promotes peace is there, your peace will rest on them; if not, it will return to you. Stay there, eating and drinking whatever they give you, for the worker deserves his wages. Do not move around from house to house.

"When you enter a town and are welcomed, eat what is offered to you. Heal the sick who are there and tell them, 'The kingdom of God has come near to you.' But when you enter a town and are not welcomed, go into its streets and say, 'Even the dust of your town we wipe from our feet as a warning to you. Yet be sure of this: The kingdom of God has come near.' I tell you, it will be more bearable on that day for Sodom than for that town...

"Whoever listens to you listens to me; whoever rejects you rejects me; but whoever rejects me rejects him who sent me."

The seventy-two returned with joy and said, "Lord, even the demons submit to us in your name."

He replied, "I saw Satan fall like lightning from heaven. I have given you authority to trample on snakes and scorpions and to overcome all the power of the enemy; nothing will harm you. However, do not rejoice that the spirits submit to you, but rejoice that your names are written in heaven."

At that time Jesus, full of joy through the Holy Spirit, said, "I praise you, Father, Lord of heaven and earth, because you have hidden these things from the wise and learned, and revealed them to little children. Yes, Father, for this is what you were pleased to do.

Luke 10:1-20

Sermon Outline:

- I. 72 (more than just the disciples) are sent on a mission, to go and speak the love of God. It wasn't overseas, it was in walking distance.
- II. The harvest is plenty, harvest is any place where a person or persons are ready to hear, not necessarily believe.
- III. Jesus states the problem—people are ready to listen, but the workers are few.
- IV. An encounter with Jesus changes everything, that is what the 72 experience, all your fears are overcome and conquered.
- V. Jesus says the kingdom of God has come near to you, meaning the follower of Jesus carries his presence.
- VI. When the 72 returned it was clear that wolves submit to lambs and it filled Jesus with joy.
- VII. Jesus says there will be rejection, he says leave and go to those who will receive you.
- VIII. You have the authority to declare peace over a people. The world yearns for peace and that is why they will receive you.
- IX. Jesus speaks peace over our own lives.

Sermon Summary:

This Sunday Pastor Redd Sevilla continues the series on Encounters with Jesus, about carrying out our mission.

Sermon Questions:

- I. What words or phrases from this scripture passage resonated in you as you read them? Why?
 - How does this scripture connect for you the topic that was discussed today? How so?
 - In your family of origin, how was religion viewed? Practiced or not? How was it spoken about and how does that lead to your ability today to share with others your belief in Jesus?
 - Understanding that just the fact you are a follower of Christ means that you are the walking presence of God, not a teacher, someone educated or a theologian, but simply a believer, how does that change your view in the authority and responsibility you carry? Who will you share God's gift of grace with next?
 - The 72 return and demons had fallen. If wolves submit to lambs, what does that say how we are to carry ourselves with our family, co-workers, friends and strangers?
 - Jesus paid for your peace and you are here today because someone did their mission and offered that peace to you. With the authority to speak peace over people, who is someone you can pray over this week for peace?