

7th Grade New Testament (Gospels)**Lesson Plan:** Jesus Sends out the Disciples (Luke 9:1-9)**Learning Goals:** Students should be able to define “disciple” and describe the tasks that Jesus equipped the disciples to accomplish.**Opening Question:** Mission work activity (see below)

Prayer

Discuss Question on board.

Review: How did Jesus support himself in his ministry?

Opening Activity: “Imagine that you are preparing for going on a one-month-long mission trip. What kind of things would you want to take with you?” After asking the students the previous question, brainstorm a “packing list” on the board.

Read Luke 9:1-11**The role of the disciple**

- Apprentice: one who is learning by practical experience under skilled workers a trade, art, or calling
 - Can you think of some jobs that you might learn through being an apprentice? (carpentry, plumbing, blacksmithing, weaving, printing, physician - residency, electrician, mechanic, etc.)
- The disciples are learning from Jesus by apprenticeship - they are watching what he is doing, learning how to do it for themselves, and being sent out to do so.
- The goal is for them to continue the ministry on their own, not to rely on Jesus to do it forever.

What was their ministry or calling?

- They are empowered by Jesus for the ministry.
- Jesus calls them and
 - he gave them power and authority
 - over all devils
 - and to cure diseases
 - and sent them
 - to proclaim the kingdom of God (extension of Jesus’ ministry)
 - and to heal those who were sick (extension of Jesus’ ministry and embodying the kingdom message)
- They are given power, but it is not to make themselves great, but in order to serve others.

How were they to accomplish this ministry?

- They were to depend on the hospitality of those to whom they were ministering.
 - no normal travel supplies: no money, walking cane, food, backpack, or clean change of clothes
 - These things might make them depend on themselves, not on God.
 - These things might also distract them from their task.

- They are modeling the missionary method of enculturation - living among the people for an extended period of time, getting to know them and adapting to their customs, rather than forcing their own viewpoints on the hosts.
 - They were to look for a “person of peace” - idea that the Holy spirit was going before them and preparing someone’s heart to receive the message long before the disciples had arrived.
 - If they did not find a “person of peace” or “house of peace,” they were to shake the dust from their feet as a sign of rejection.
 - The goal of this kind of mission is not to take Christ to them, but to discover Christ already at work in the midst of them.
 - Jesus demonstrated a pattern of preparation, action, and evaluation (reflecting on what they had seen and done).
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Lesson Summary:

Students should review and highlight the following vocabulary terms and concepts from this lesson in their notes:

- Apprentice
- Enculturation
- When Jesus sent out his disciples, how did he send them out and why? How did this affect their ministry?