

QUESTIONS FOR DISCUSSION

1. What does it mean to be a follower of Christ?
2. What is the relationship of true disciples^[SoF:16] to God?
3. What are some modern-day excuses?
4. Are we to carry no purse, scrip or shoes today?

SUMMARY:

God calls all people to discipleship. Discipleship involves learning, following and serving God. It requires priority. It calls for the spirit of devotion. True discipleship is essential to God's kingdom and is intended to prepare people for it. God in His love and sacrifice is our supreme example.

NOTES:

^[SoF:15] We believe that the Great Commission of our Lord Jesus Christ is an invitation for everyone to live a life of abandonment to Him, Who loved us and gave Himself for us - surrendering His personal ambitions and possessions in an unreserved committal to take the proclamation of the Gospel throughout "all the world to every creature". ^[SoF:16] We believe that the gift of eternal life is a present possession of every true disciple of Jesus Christ, and that nothing nor anyone can take it from him. However, it is a realistic possibility for a true believer, of his own free will, to no longer "continue in the faith" but instead to apostatize, "depart from the faith", return to sin, and consequently forfeit the eternal life he once possessed.

APOSTOLIC CHRISTIAN CHURCH

Bible Lesson #12

December 17, 2017

Fourth Quarter

MISSION OF THE SEVENTY

LESSON TEXT: Luke 9:57-62; 10:1-24

LESSON SETTING: Gathering place where disciples were briefed before they were sent out to proclaim Christ.

TIME: Approximately 29 A.D.

- I. WEAK EXCUSES.** Luke 9:57-62
 - A. Inconvenience. Acts 24:25
 - B. Pressure of Duty. Luke 14:18-20
- II. WISE INSTRUCTIONS.** Luke 10:1-16
 - A. Prayer to the Lord to Send Laborers (vs. 2) Acts 4:29-31; 13:2
 - B. Trust in God (vs. 4) Psalm 37:5; Isaiah 26:4
 - C. Preach the Gospel^[SoF:15] (vs. 9) Acts 5:20; 2 Timothy 4:2
- III. GREAT REJOICING.** Luke 10:17-24
 - A. The Disciples Rejoice (vs. 17) John 4:36
 - B. Jesus Gives Reason for Rejoicing (vs. 20) Isaiah 61:10; Romans 14:17
 - C. Jesus Rejoices (vs. 21) John 15:11; Hebrews 12:2

GOLDEN TEXT: HE THAT HEARETH YOU HEARETH ME; AND HE THAT DESPISETH YOU DESPISETH ME; AND HE THAT DESPISETH ME DESPISETH HIM THAT SENT ME. Luke 10:16

NEXT SUNDAY'S LESSON: Luke 2:1-20

SUPPLEMENTAL REFERENCES: Genesis 3:1-15; Isaiah 7:1-16;
Isaiah 9:6-7; Micah 5:1-7

QUARTERLY THEME: Christ the Son of Man

TOPIC: THE BIRTH OF JESUS

INTRODUCTION:

The story of Jesus' birth is no doubt the best loved and most widely spread story in the world, and well it should be. Everyone, from the very aged down to the young child, is deeply impressed with the mixture of beauty, simplicity, and majesty. Here is a story of an Almighty God sending His only Son into the world as a newborn babe, to live among His own creation, ultimately to give His life, in love, to save His people from their own wickedness and destruction.

It sounds like a fairy tale. Note: it **sounds** like a fairy tale; the difference is, it is true. This aspect—the TRUTH AND REALITY of the story—the world has failed to recognize and accept. It seems that many see the beauty of it, without really considering just why Jesus came and what it means to them as individuals.

At this Christmas season, may this be the theme of the Christmas message: that Jesus came to shed His lifeblood; so that those who put their trust in Him may be saved.

CENTRAL TRUTH: The birth of Jesus gives hope to all.

GOLDEN TEXT: AND SHE BROUGHT FORTH HER FIRSTBORN SON, AND WRAPPED HIM IN SWADDLING CLOTHES AND LAID HIM IN A MANGER BECAUSE THERE WAS NO ROOM FOR THEM IN THE INN.

Luke 2:7

There was no room in the inn. We assume that the innkeeper did not intend any evil in turning them away. The inn was full. Business was just too good right then to bother with the problems of the likes of Mary and Joseph; and he didn't know who they were anyway.

Surely, God's blessing to the world was in no way minimized because of Jesus being born in a stable, but the innkeeper missed a great opportunity: to be host to the Son of God.

So today, those who reject Christ don't always intend to do evil. They are simply too busy; too occupied with less important things, so Christ is rejected. And here, too, it is not God's plan that will suffer; but the one who rejects Christ is the one who will miss out, eternally.

DAILY BIBLE READINGS FOR THE WEEK OF December 18 – 24

- M. The Savior Promised. Genesis 3:1-17
- T. The Savior's Kingdom Foretold. Isaiah 11:1-10
- W. The Savior's Birth Prophesied. Micah 5:1-7
- T. *The Birth of Jesus. Luke 2:1-20
- F. The Savior's Return Prophesied. Acts 1:1-11
- S. The Savior's Reign Promised. Revelation 21:15
- S. The Savior's Resurrection Assured. 1 Corinthians 15:1-8

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