



Sermon Growth Guide

July 20, 2025

There is Goodness

Luke 9:1-6; 10-17

Key Verse: Luke 9:11 "...and he welcomed them and spoke to them of the kingdom of God and cured those who had need of healing."

Big Idea: In the face of Jesus, there is goodness.

Foundations

In the face of Jesus, we see goodness. We all know what it's like to live in a world where kingdoms are infected by evil. But in Jesus, the good kingdom of God has come.

In our passage, Jesus shows us true goodness. Demons are cast out. Diseases are healed. The disciples have everything they need for their journey, and are cared for when they return. The crowds are not rejected when they intrude, but are welcomed. Jesus taught them, cured them, and fed them in both body and soul. Everyone is satisfied, and yet an abundance remains. (Luke 9:17)

However, our passage makes one more thing very clear. The followers of Jesus are being prepared and sent out to do the good things that Jesus himself does. The twelve are sent out to proclaim the kingdom of God, to cast out demons, and to heal. When the disciples grow concerned about the hungry crowd, Jesus tells them, "You give them something to eat." (Luke 9:13) The disciples hardly have anything to give, but after saying a blessing Jesus multiplies their small gifts more than they could ever have imagined.

What happens when we go out into the world? Do we speak about the kingdom of God? Do we free people from demons and heal the sick? Are the hungry crowds welcomed? Do we feed them in body and soul? In the face of Jesus there is goodness. As followers of Jesus, we are sent out to show the face of Jesus to the world.

Understanding God's Word

Read Luke 9:1-6; 10-17 together. Do you agree that this passage reveals Jesus' goodness? And if so, why? How do you reconcile Jesus' command to "shake off the dust from your feet" with his goodness?

Jesus gives his disciples the authority to cast out demons. What questions do you have about this? Do you believe this? What do you think it looks like to cast out demons in our culture and time?

Applying God's Word

Read John 5:19. Jesus seems to be training his disciples to imitate him the way he imitates the Father. In what ways do you imitate Jesus in your life? In what ways do you go your own way?

Think through various ways Jesus' goodness shows itself in this passage. What are some practical ways you and your community show Jesus' goodness to others?

Witnessing God's Word

There is sometimes a debate about whether the gospel is best proclaimed by words or in deeds. In this passage, Jesus gives his disciples clear instructions to preach the Gospel in both word and action.

When you think about your own proclamation of the Gospel, is one or the other of these two sides missing? How can you grow in proclaiming the Gospel in both word and deed?