



The 5 Foundational Stories of our Faith

Part 5: God Creates a Community of Healers (Luke 9 & 10)

Guiding Principles

He spoke to them again and said, "As the Father has sent me, even so I am sending you." Then he breathed on them and told them, "Receive the Holy Spirit."
John 20:21, 22

We have no time to sit down and ask ourselves whether so-and-so is our neighbour or not. We must get into action and obey — we must behave like a neighbour to him." Dietrich Bonhoeffer, *The Cost of Discipleship* .

Luke 9 & 10

- After Jesus does a number of healings himself, he sends out his 12 disciples to continue his work of healing.
- After his 12 disciples, Jesus sends out 70 or 72 others to continue. (There is a textual variation in Luke 10:1. That is, early manuscripts of Scripture attest to both numbers.)
- 70 refers to the number of helps God gives Moses to lead his children.
- 72 refers, in the Greek version of Scripture (the Septuagint), to the number of nations in the world.
- The Good Samaritan is the story of how simple it is to be a healer like Jesus – just be like the Samaritan. Be a good neighbour.

Gathering.

Open with this prayer or sing along to it here,
Send me, Jesus, send me, Jesus, send me, Jesus, send me, Lord.
Use me, Jesus, send me, Jesus, send me, Jesus, send me, Lord.

Listening.

Watch or listen to the teaching.

Wondering.

Spend some time in silence and consider the following.

- I wonder what you liked about the presentation.
- I wonder what challenged you about the presentation.
- I wonder what of the foundational stories you like best.
- I wonder if it's important that the Bible has textual variations.
- I wonder how comfortable you are being one of God's spiritual nurses in the world.
- I wonder how the Good Samaritan is our example of healing ministry in the world.

Sharing.

Choose a question to share with the group or journal.

Praying.

Practice the Examination of the Day together.

- For what today are you most grateful?
- For what today do you need healing?
- Where did you see Christ today?
- Where do you pray for Christ's presence today?

Commissioning.

Take what you experienced today into your week.

- This week, I want to read more about textual variations in the Bible.
- This week, I want to think of 3 ways I can be a healer in the world.
- This week, I want to connect with a neighbour I haven't yet, or haven't in a long time.

Preparing.

Read Romans 8 and reflect on the hope you have for the future of the world (or the lack of hope!).

