

Luke 10:1-20
1 After this the Lord appointed seventy-two others and sent them on ahead of him, two by two, into every town and place where he himself was about to go. 2 And he said to them, "The harvest is plentiful, but the laborers are few. Therefore pray earnestly to the Lord of the harvest to send out laborers into his harvest. 3 Go your way; behold, I am sending you out as lambs in the midst of wolves.

Luke 10:1-20
9 Heal the sick in it and say to them, 'The kingdom of God has come near to you.' 10 But whenever you enter a town and they do not receive you, go into its streets and say, 11 'Even the dust of your town that clings to our feet we wipe off against you. Nevertheless know this, that the kingdom of God has come near.' 12 I tell you, it will be more bearable on that day for Sodom than for that town.

Luke 10:1-20
13 "Woe to you, Chorazin! Woe to you, Bethsaida! For if the mighty works done in you had been done in Tyre and Sidon, they would have repented long ago, sitting in sackcloth and ashes. 14 But it will be more bearable in the judgment for Tyre and Sidon than for you. 15 And you, Capernaum, will you be exalted to heaven? You shall be brought down to Hades.
16 "The one who hears you hears me, and the one who rejects you rejects me, and the one who rejects me rejects him who sent me."

Luke 10:1-20
17 The seventy-two returned with joy, saying, "Lord, even the demons are subject to us in your name!" 18 And he said to them, "I saw Satan fall like lightning from heaven. 19 Behold, I have given you authority to tread on serpents and scorpions, and over all the power of the enemy, and nothing shall hurt you. 20 Nevertheless, do not rejoice in this, that the spirits are subject to you, but rejoice that your names are written in heaven."

The Reluctance of the Laborer

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The problem isn't just that there aren't enough disciples.
It's that there aren't enough willing ones.

Am I the reluctant laborer?

Luke 9:57-62
57 As they were going along the road, someone said to him,
"**I will follow you wherever you go.**"

58 And Jesus said to him, "Foxes have holes, and birds of
the air have nests, but the Son of Man has nowhere to lay
his head."

Temptation of the comfortable life

"It's hard to get out of bed and do the hardwork when you're wearing silk pajamas." - Charles Barkley

The more comfortable we become,
the harder it is to leave our comfort behind.

"Jesus, I'll follow you wherever you go."
"Jesus, I'll follow you where you go, as along as..."

Am I the reluctant laborer?

Luke 9:57-62
59 To another he said, "Follow me." But he said, "Lord, let me first go and bury my father." 60 And Jesus said to him, "Leave the dead to bury their own dead. **But as for you, go and proclaim the kingdom of God**."

Temptation of the responsible life
-In our attempts to live a responsible life, we can be irresponsible to God.

Am I the reluctant laborer?

Luke 9:57-62
61 Yet another said, "I will follow you, Lord, but let me first say farewell to those at my home." 62 Jesus said to him, "No one who puts his hand to the plow and **looks back** is fit for the kingdom of God."

Temptation of the good life
-He hasn't counted the cost. He's afraid of missing out.

The subtle ways people reject Jesus.

Luke 9:59 To another he said, "Follow me." But he said, "**Lord, let me first** go and bury my father."
Luke 9:61 Yet another said, "I will follow you, **Lord, but let me first** say farewell to those at my home."

Some reject Jesus by saying, "No, I will not follow you."
Others reject Jesus by saying, "Yes, but first..."

What's the solution to the reluctant heart?
Prayer

The Importance of the Laborer

The Importance of the Laborer

REFRAMES REJECTION IN MINSITRY

1. Faithful ministry guarentees rejection
*Luke 10:10 But **whenever** you enter a town and **they do not receive you**, go into its streets and say,*
Luke 10:16 "The one who hears you hears me, and the one who rejects you rejects me, and the one who rejects me rejects him who sent me."

The Importance of the Laborer

REFRAMES REJECTION IN MINSITRY

2. Rejection is a greater reflection of them, not the laborer.
*Luke 10:13 "Woe to you, Chorazin! Woe to you, Bethsaida! **For if the mighty works done in you had been done in Tyre and Sidon, they would have repented long ago**, sitting in sackcloth and ashes. .*

The Importance of the Laborer

REFRAMES REJECTION IN MINSITRY

3. Rejection is not only a rejection of laborer, but ultimately of God.
Luke 10:16 *"The one who hears you hears me, and the one who rejects you **rejects me**, and the one who rejects me **rejects him who sent me**."*

The Importance of the Laborer

*Luke 10:1 After this the Lord appointed seventy-two others and sent them on ahead of him, two by two, into every town and place where **he himself was about to go**.*

The reason God calls you to a certain place is because he wants to go to that certain place.





The Joy of the Laborer

17 The seventy-two returned with joy, saying, "Lord, even the demons are subject to us in your name!" 18 And he said to them, "I saw Satan fall like lightning from heaven.

They saw the ordinary work of ministry on earth.
Jesus saw the extraordinary work of God in heaven.

Your ordinary work of ministry has extraordinary spiritual significance.

The Joy of the Laborer

19 Behold, I have given you authority to tread on serpents and scorpions, and over all the power of the enemy, and nothing shall hurt you.

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Genesis 3:15 I will put enmity between you and the woman, and between your offspring and her offspring; **he shall bruise your head,** and you shall bruise his heel."

Genesis: Victory promised.
The offspring of the woman will crush the serpent's head.

The Joy of the Laborer

Genesis: Victory promised.
The offspring of the woman will crush the serpent's head. (Gen 3:15)

Gospels: Victory accomplished.
Jesus crushes the serpent's head.

Today:

The Joy of the Laborer
19 Behold, I have given you authority to tread on serpents and scorpions, and over all the power of the enemy, and nothing shall hurt you.
Genesis: Victory promised.
Gospels: Victory accomplished.
Today: Victory shared. God crushes Satan under your feet.
Rom 16:20 *The God of peace will soon crush Satan under your feet.*

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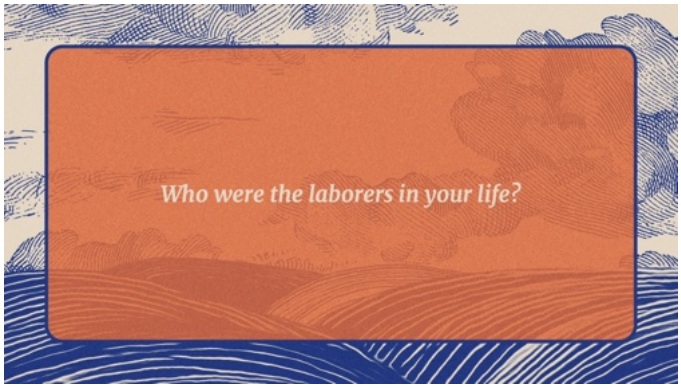
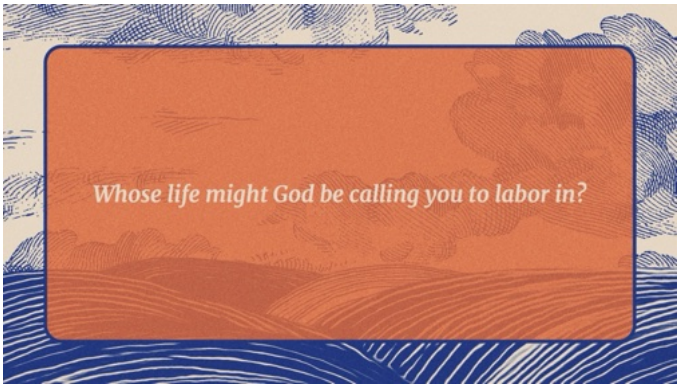
Jesus won the victory on the cross.
Now his victory unfolds through our ordinary obedience.

Luke 10:20 Nevertheless, do not rejoice in this, that the spirits are subject to you, but rejoice that your names are written in heaven."

There is a joy that can rival the joy of our own salvation: the joy of seeing another name written in heaven.

Your ordinary work of ministry
has extraordinary spiritual significance.


Who were the laborers in your life?


Whose life might God be calling you to labor in?