COMMUNITY GROUP DISCUSSION GUIDE
Week 4 | Luke 10:1–20 | The Faithful Laborer

As we continue exploring God's Pursuing Grace, we move from recognizing how God has pursued us to considering how He now invites us to participate in His pursuit of others.

Over the last several weeks, we have examined our hearts, reflected on God's grace in our own stories, and considered how we might share that story with others.

FOLLOW-UP: Last week, we were invited to reflect on our own stories using three movements: MY NEED → HIS GRACE → MY LIFE NOW.

- Did anyone spend time reflecting on their story this week? What did you discover?
- Would anyone like to share their story?
- How might your story become an opportunity to point someone toward Jesus?

This week, we continue in our series, though breaking from Jonah, as we see Jesus reminding us of our call for His mission. That may produce various responses: we may feel reluctant, inadequate, afraid of rejection, but Jesus reminds us of the joy of joining Him as laborers for His harvest.

Read the Passage: Read Luke 10:1–20

The Reluctance of the Laborer
"The problem isn't just that there aren't enough disciples. It's that there aren't enough willing ones."

Jesus declares that the harvest is plentiful, but the laborers are few. Often, our reluctance isn't outright rebellion but competing desires for comfort, responsibility, or control (recall Luke 9:57-62). Jesus tells us the antidote to our reluctance is prayer: deepening our trust in the Lord of the harvest to change our hearts and send us.

Discuss:
- What stands out to you about Jesus' description of the harvest and His instruction to pray for laborers?
- The sermon identified three temptations that can make us reluctant: the comfortable life, the responsible life, and the good life. Which of these most often competes with your willingness to follow Jesus into His mission?
- Where might you be saying, "Lord, I will follow you, but first..."?

The Importance of the Laborer
"The reason God calls you to a certain place is because He wants to go to that certain place."

Jesus sends ordinary disciples into places where He Himself intends to go. Our calling is not to control the response but to faithfully represent Him. God uses our ordinary obedience to make His grace known, even when we face rejection.

Discuss:
- How does knowing that Jesus sends His disciples ahead of Him change the way you view the people and places God has put in your life?
- Why does the possibility of rejection often keep us from speaking about our faith? How does Jesus' teaching in verses 10–16 help reframe that fear?
- This text reminds us that faithfulness is measured by obedience, rather than someone's response. How might that change the way we approach being a laborer?

The Joy of the Laborer
The disciples return rejoicing over what God accomplished through them. Yet Jesus reminds them that their greatest joy is not in what they do for Him, but in what He has done for them. Our salvation is the foundation of our confidence and joy in mission.

Discuss:
- Do you ever underestimate the significance of ordinary acts of faithfulness, such as praying for someone, offering hospitality, or having a spiritual conversation? How so?
- How does finding our deepest joy in our own salvation free us to take risks in sharing the gospel with others?

FROM GOD'S PURSUING GRACE TO GOD'S MISSION

Over the past few weeks, we've spent time reflecting on the very questions Joel ended his sermon with:

- **Who were the laborers God used in your life?**
- **What did they do that helped you encounter or grow in the grace of Jesus?**

We've reflected on God's pursuing grace in our own stories and considered how we might share those stories with others. Now, we want to turn our attention outward. **Just as God used faithful people to pursue us with His grace, He now calls us to faithfulness to participate in His mission toward others.**

WHOSE LIFE MIGHT GOD BE CALLING YOU TO LABOR IN?

Think about the people God has already placed around you: neighbors, coworkers, friends, family members, or people you regularly encounter.

As we continue through this fall, we're going to make space each week to briefly check in with one another using three simple questions: **WHO? HOW? HELP?** This isn't another assignment or a measure of success, but a regular, simple rhythm to encourage one another as we grow in living missionally.

DISCUSS:

- **WHO?** Who is one person God has placed in your life whom you could intentionally move toward with His love?
- **HOW?** What is one faithful step you could take this week—praying, listening, serving, inviting, or sharing your story?
- **HELP?** How can your Community Group pray for, encourage, or join you in that step?

THIS WEEK'S CHALLENGE: Identify one person and take one intentional step toward them this week. We'll revisit these questions each week to encourage one another, celebrate faithful steps, and pray together.

LEADER NOTE: *Keep this simple and conversational. Going forward, protect 10–15 minutes each week for this rhythm. Encourage specificity without creating pressure. Celebrate faithfulness, not outcomes.*

CLOSE IN PRAYER: Pray for the people God has placed around you, for courage to take faithful steps, and for hearts that increasingly reflect God's pursuing grace.