

To Boldly Go During This Easter Season and Beyond Appointed, Empowered, and Sent

Thesis: We are a people who join Jesus on his mission, with others, in our spheres of influence. During this Easter Season and beyond, we are appointed, empowered, and sent by the Lord.

Text: Luke 10:1-24; Matthew 28:18-20

1. Remind people to sign up for [1Day Houston/ LHNL](#). At the end of the service, Cheryl or Michael will help you sign up for [1Day Houston/ LHNL](#) for April 29.
2. Remind people of the gift of helping us pray for our neighborhoods at [BlessEveryHome.com](#).
 - a. **Be a Light for Christ:** Pray-Care-Share.
 - b. For the Lord has commanded us, *"I have placed you as a Light for the Gentiles, that you may bring salvation to the ends of the earth"* (Acts 13:47).
 - c. It's free and confidential.
 - d. [Blesseveryhome.com](#) gives you the tools to become a Light for Christ in your neighborhood. Join an ever-growing community of Christ followers who are devoted to being a Light in their neighborhoods through praying for, caring for, sharing the gospel with, and discipling their neighbors.
 - e. [Blesseveryhome.com](#) provides all the tools to get to know your neighbors by name so that you can begin to build relationships with them. Use your dashboard to track your individual progress with each neighbor. You will even receive optional regular reminder emails with a prayer prompt and 5 neighbors to pray for that day.

Let's read Luke 10:1-24.

We are a people who join Jesus on his mission, with others, in our spheres of influence.

1. **Jesus is on mission around us.**
 - a. **Jesus is "the sent" one.**
 - i. "He [the Lord] has sent me..." (Luke 4:18).

- ii. *But he said, "I must preach the good news of the kingdom of God to the other towns also, because that is why I was sent" (Luke 4:43).*
- iii. *"My food," said Jesus, "is to do the will of him who sent me and to finish his work" (John 4:34–38).*
- iv. *"By myself I can do nothing; I judge only as I hear, and my judgment is just, for I seek not to please myself but him who sent me" (John 5:30).*
- v. *Jesus answered, "The work of God is this: to believe in the one he has sent" (John 6:29).*
- vi. *"For I have come down from heaven not to do my will but to do the will of him who sent me" (John 6:38).*
- vii. *"The one who sent me is with me; he has not left me alone, for I always do what pleases him" (John 8:29).*
- viii. *"Now this is eternal life: that they may know you, the only true God, and Jesus Christ, whom you have sent" (John 17:3).*

b. **Just as the Father sent Jesus, so Jesus sends us.**

- i. We are "sent" ones.
- ii. *Again Jesus said, "Peace be with you! As the Father has sent me, I am sending you" (John 20:21).*

c. **Our God is on mission everywhere.** He is on mission in your family, your neighborhood, your community, your school, your workplace, your city, your state, your nation, and the nations of the earth.

- i. We are a people who join Jesus on his mission **with others**.
- ii. And, we are a people who join Jesus on his mission, with others, **in our spheres of influence** (Acts 1:8).
- iii. Jesus is on mission reaching the poor, the disadvantaged, the disabled, the discouraged, the demonized, the outcast, the marginalized, the prisoner, the hurting... (Isaiah 61:1-3; Luke 4:18-19).
- iv. Jesus is reaching the those who seem to have everything together (the up and the insiders), and Jesus is reaching the down and outers.
- v. Jesus is actively pursuing people like us and different from us. Jesus is reaching people of different politics from you, of different races and people groups than you, and of different economic means than you.

2. **We get to co-labor with Jesus.**

- a. *"As the Father has sent me, I am sending you" (John 20:21).*
- b. We want to stay in step with Jesus (Matthew 4:19).
 - i. Ask the Lord: What are you doing that I can bless?

- ii. Ask the Lord: To whom are you sending me in my sphere of influence?
 - c. We want to walk by the Spirit of God (Galatians 5:25).
 - i. Ask the Lord: How can I partner with you? Sharing? Praying? Loving? Serving? Other?
- 3. **As the Father sent Jesus, so Jesus has sent us.** ([Great Commission or Great Omission?](#) Francis Frangipane, May 25, 2023.)
 - a. What is the Great Commission? These were the "marching orders" Jesus gave His apostles just before He ascended. In other words, this is what He desired His church to be focused on until He returned (Matthew 28:19-20).
 - b. In essence Jesus wants us focused on two things: [As we are going, we] "go" with a view of bringing the lost into His kingdom. But He also wants the church at large to become Christlike: "teaching them to observe all that I commanded you." For some, however, the Great Commission has become more like a great omission, as many Christians are neither concerned about the lost nor are they reaching for Christlikeness.
 - c. Salvation is the first step in the journey toward Christlikeness. Christ's vision is for His people to grow "in all aspects" unto Him (Ephesians 4:15). Those who obey all that Jesus taught, ultimately through the Holy Spirit, possess the same life as Christ Himself. His teaching conforms us to His heart, making us redemptive in motive and, like Him, unoffendable as we seek the transformation of our nations.
 - d. **So, the Great Commission gloriously begins with evangelism and conversion, but unfolds into Christlikeness as revealed in Christ's words.**
 - e. Christ calls us to be His followers. He said, "As the Father has sent Me, I also send you" (John 20:21). Just as He was sent into the world to bring redemption, so He sends His disciples. Indeed, **the goal of discipleship is that we become "fully trained," so that we are functioning exactly "like [our] teacher," Jesus Christ (Luke 6:40).**
 - f. You see, many believe in Jesus; few are they who mature spiritually to where they actually believe like Him. Those who believe like Him have faith that tells them all things are possible. They are confident that redemption can occur, even in the darkest regions. Thus, the goal of the Great Commission is to see these kind of Christians planted in every nation, for in their spirit is the redemptive future of each culture.
 - g. Yes, Christianity can be many things to many people: a place of friendships, healing and new beginnings; but at its core, it must be a training ground where the saved are empowered to journey toward Christlikeness.
 - h. Christ's goal was the replication of Himself in His disciples and, through them, replication of His life throughout the world. This issue, therefore,

of teaching His word, of using His word to shape us from the inside out, is the goal of discipleship. (*Great Commission or Great Omission?* Francis Frangipane, May 25, 2023.)

4. **Our job is to bless what the Lord is doing and to help people in their next step in their journey with the Lord.**
 - a. **Ministry Team Training** is about learning how to stay in step with Jesus: QRST.
 - b. Our job is to stay in step with the Spirit and to follow what Jesus is doing.
 - i. God is at work in the lives of people to heal, save, deliver, encourage, and touch in many other ways, for that is the anointing upon Jesus (Luke 4:18; Isaiah 61:1-3).
 - ii. **We get to partner with the Lord to see people saved, delivered, healed, whole, helped, and changed** (Luke 9:1-2; 10:1-8; Matthew 28:18-20; Acts 1:8).
 - c. **Our job is to bless what the Lord is doing and to help people move along in their journey with the Lord.**
5. **As we are “going” about this Easter season, I want to encourage each of us to stay in step with the Lord and to make an ask for Easter** (Matthew 28:18-20).
 - a. *Then the eleven disciples went to Galilee, to the mountain where Jesus had told them to go. 17 When they saw him, they worshiped him; but some doubted. 18 Then Jesus came to them and said, “All authority in heaven and on earth has been given to me. 19 Therefore go [as you are going] and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, 20 and teaching them to obey everything I have commanded you. And surely I am with you always, to the very end of the age”* (Matthew 28:16–20).
 - b. **Our God has left a clear witness to Jesus in our culture at Christmas and Easter.** Praise the Lord.
 - i. At least 2 times a year, people are thinking about going to church.
 - ii. **Why not ask them to come with you to Calvary?**
 1. Ask them to meet you here.
 2. Or, ask them to come with you.

As we go, let’s go with faith and expectation (John 4:35; Matthew 9:35-38).

1. Jesus said, *“Now is the time of harvest”* (John 4:35).
2. Jesus told us to pray for laborers for his Father’s harvest fields (Luke 10:2; Matthew 9:38).

3. Jesus told us that there are people around us who are harassed and helpless (Matthew 9:36). They are hurting. They need the help and hope that we find in Jesus.
4. The Holy Spirit has already gone before you to prepare the hearts of people (John 16:8-11).
5. The Lord Jesus is with you always (Matthew 28:20).
6. After this the Lord appointed seventy-two others and sent them two by two ahead of him to every town and place where he was about to go. 2 He told them, "The harvest is plentiful, but the workers are few. Ask the Lord of the harvest, therefore, to send out workers into his harvest field. 3 **Go!**... (Luke 10:1-3).

Summary:

Let's boldly go during this Easter Season and beyond, because Jesus is with us and he has appointed, empowered, and sent us.

Ministry Time: