Lesson 9 Luke 9

When Jesus had called the Twelve together, he gave them power and authority to drive out all demons and to cure diseases, 2and he sent them out to proclaim the kingdom of God and to heal the sick. 3He told them: “Take nothing for the journey—no staff, no bag, no bread, no money, no extra shirt.4Whatever house you enter, stay there until you leave that town. 5If people do not welcome you, leave their town and shake the dust off your feet as a testimony against them.” 6So they set out and went from village to village, proclaiming the good news and healing people everywhere.

7Now Herod the tetrarch heard about all that was going on. And he was perplexed because some were saying that John had been raised from the dead, 8others that Elijah had appeared, and still others that one of the prophets of long ago had come back to life. 9But Herod said, “I beheaded John. Who, then, is this I hear such things about?” And he tried to see him.

Jesus Feeds the Five Thousand

10When the apostles returned, they reported to Jesus what they had done. Then he took them with him and they withdrew by themselves to a town called Bethsaida, 11but the crowds learned about it and followed him. He welcomed them and spoke to them about the kingdom of God, and healed those who needed healing.

12Late in the afternoon the Twelve came to him and said, “Send the crowd away so they can go to the surrounding villages and countryside and find food and lodging, because we are in a remote place here.”

13He replied, “You give them something to eat.”

They answered, “We have only five loaves of bread and two fish—unless we go and buy food for all this crowd.” 14(About five thousand men were there.)

But he said to his disciples, “Have them sit down in groups of about fifty each.” 15The disciples did so, and everyone sat down. 16Taking the five loaves and the two fish and looking up to heaven, he gave thanks and broke them. Then he gave them to the disciples to distribute to the people. 17They all ate and were satisfied, and the disciples picked up twelve basketfuls of broken pieces that were left over.

Peter Declares That Jesus Is the Messiah

18Once when Jesus was praying in private and his disciples were with him, he asked them, “Who do the crowds say I am?”

19They replied, “Some say John the Baptist; others say Elijah; and still others, that one of the prophets of long ago has come back to life.”

20“But what about you?” he asked. “Who do you say I am?”

Peter answered, “God’s Messiah.”

Jesus Predicts His Death

21Jesus strictly warned them not to tell this to anyone. 22And he said, “The Son of Man must suffer many things and be rejected by the elders, the chief priests and the teachers of the law, and he must be killed and on the third day be raised to life.”

23Then he said to them all: “Whoever wants to be my disciple must deny themselves and take up their cross daily and follow me. 24For whoever wants to save their life will lose it, but whoever loses their life for me will save it. 25What good is it for someone to gain the whole world, and yet lose or forfeit their very self? 26Whoever is ashamed of me and my words, the Son of Man will be ashamed of them when he comes in his glory and in the glory of the Father and of the holy angels.

27“Truly I tell you, some who are standing here will not taste death before they see the kingdom of God.”

The Transfiguration

28About eight days after Jesus said this, he took Peter, John and James with him and went up onto a mountain to pray. 29As he was praying, the appearance of his face changed, and his clothes became as bright as a flash of lightning. 30Two men, Moses and Elijah, appeared in glorious splendor, talking with Jesus. 31They spoke about his departure,[[a](https://www.biblegateway.com/passage/?search=Luke+9&version=NIV#fen-NIV-25333a)] which he was about to bring to fulfillment at Jerusalem. 32Peter and his companions were very sleepy, but when they became fully awake, they saw his glory and the two men standing with him.33As the men were leaving Jesus, Peter said to him, “Master, it is good for us to be here. Let us put up three shelters—one for you, one for Moses and one for Elijah.” (He did not know what he was saying.)

34While he was speaking, a cloud appeared and covered them, and they were afraid as they entered the cloud. 35A voice came from the cloud, saying, “This is my Son, whom I have chosen;listen to him.” 36When the voice had spoken, they found that Jesus was alone. The disciples kept this to themselves and did not tell anyone at that time what they had seen.

Jesus Heals a Demon-Possessed Boy

37The next day, when they came down from the mountain, a large crowd met him. 38A man in the crowd called out, “Teacher, I beg you to look at my son, for he is my only child.39A spirit seizes him and he suddenly screams; it throws him into convulsions so that he foams at the mouth. It scarcely ever leaves him and is destroying him. 40I begged your disciples to drive it out, but they could not.”

41“You unbelieving and perverse generation,” Jesus replied, “how long shall I stay with you and put up with you? Bring your son here.”

42Even while the boy was coming, the demon threw him to the ground in a convulsion. But Jesus rebuked the impure spirit, healed the boy and gave him back to his father. 43And they were all amazed at the greatness of God.

Jesus Predicts His Death a Second Time

While everyone was marveling at all that Jesus did, he said to his disciples, 44“Listen carefully to what I am about to tell you: The Son of Man is going to be delivered into the hands of men.”45But they did not understand what this meant. It was hidden from them, so that they did not grasp it, and they were afraid to ask him about it.

46An argument started among the disciples as to which of them would be the greatest. 47Jesus, knowing their thoughts,took a little child and had him stand beside him. 48Then he said to them, “Whoever welcomes this little child in my name welcomes me; and whoever welcomes me welcomes the one who sent me. For it is the one who is least among you all who is the greatest.”

49“Master,” said John, “we saw someone driving out demons in your name and we tried to stop him, because he is not one of us.”

50“Do not stop him,” Jesus said, “for whoever is not against you is for you.”

Samaritan Opposition

51As the time approached for him to be taken up to heaven,Jesus resolutely set out for Jerusalem. 52And he sent messengers on ahead, who went into a Samaritan village to get things ready for him; 53but the people there did not welcome him, because he was heading for Jerusalem. 54When the disciples James and John saw this, they asked, “Lord, do you want us to call fire down from heaven to destroy them[[b](https://www.biblegateway.com/passage/?search=Luke+9&version=NIV#fen-NIV-25356b)]?”55But Jesus turned and rebuked them. 56Then he and his disciples went to another village.

The Cost of Following Jesus

57As they were walking along the road, a man said to him, “I will follow you wherever you go.”

58Jesus replied, “Foxes have dens and birds have nests, but the Son of Man has no place to lay his head.”

59He said to another man, “Follow me.”

But he replied, “Lord, first let me go and bury my father.”

60Jesus said to him, “Let the dead bury their own dead, but you go and proclaim the kingdom of God.”

61Still another said, “I will follow you, Lord; but first let me go back and say goodbye to my family.”

62Jesus replied, “No one who puts a hand to the plow and looks back is fit for service in the kingdom of God.”

1. Jesus called the apostles to him, and sent them out on a mission, giving them authority and power to drive out all demons, and cure diseases, and heal the sick and preach the good news of the kingdom of God. What instructions did he give them for this journey, and why do you think he said these things? Does this say anything to you about your mission/ministry?

2. Would you say that Jesus has given you a mission? What is it? Explain.

3. Why was King Herod perplexed about who Jesus was?

4. Read verses 10 – 16, about the feeding of the 5,000. Had you been one of the apostles, do you think you would have stepped out by faith and tried to obey Jesus when he said “You give them something to eat”, or do you think you would have reacted like the twelve did? Explain.

5. Read the conversation Jesus had with his apostles in verses 18-27. Which of Jesus’ statements makes the biggest impact on you, and why? Explain.

6. Write about a time when you “denied yourself, took up your cross and followed Jesus.” (Please remember that anything of a personal nature that is shared in our small groups is to remain strictly confidential. No gossip please!)

7. In verse 27 Jesus said “I tell you the truth, some who are standing here will not taste death before they see the kingdom of God.” What do you think he was referring to, and how was this prophecy fulfilled?

8. According to verses 30-31, what was Jesus talking about with Moses and Elijah on the Mount of Transfiguration? Why do you think they were discussing these things?

9. Write about a time when you were going through, or about to go through something dreadful, and the Lord encouraged you through others?

10. Read verses 37 – 45. Why do you think the disciples couldn’t cast the demon out of the boy, especially in light of verse 1? Explain.

11. Read verses 46 – 50. How do you think the disciples gauged greatness, and how does Jesus gauge greatness?

12. What 2 gaffs did John make in verses 46-55? Does this surprise you, coming from the man who came to be known as “the apostle of love?” Explain.

13. Read about the 3 men Jesus spoke to about the cost of following Him, in verses 57-62. Jesus knows us better than we know ourselves. The first man said he wanted to follow Jesus, but Jesus implied he shouldn’t come along, saying “Foxes have holes and birds of the air have nests, but the Son of Man has no place to lay his head.” (ie he wouldn’t be comfortable.) Jesus called two other men, but they made excuses (family and social obligations.) What is most likely to tempt you to not follow Jesus? Explain.

14. Journal this passage SOAP style.