

World Mission: Discipleship



Word of the Week Luke 10:1-12 The Mission of the Seventy-Two

After this, the Lord appointed seventy-two, and sent them on ahead of him, two by two, into every place where he himself was about to come. And he said to them, "The harvest is plentiful, but the labourers are few; pray therefore the Lord of the harvest to send the labourers into his harvest. Go your way, I send you out as lambs in the midst of wolves. Carry no purse, no bag, no sandals; and salute no one on the road. Whatever house you enter, first say, 'Peace be to this house!'. And if a son of peace is there, your peace shall rest upon him; but if not, it shall return to you. And remain in the same house, eating and drinking what they provide. Do not go from house to house. Whenever you enter a town and they receive you, eat what is set before you; heal the sick in it and say to them, 'The Kingdom of God has come near to you'. But whenever you enter a town and they do not receive you, go into its streets and say, '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.' I tell you, it shall be more tolerable on that day for Sodom than for that town".

They returned with joy, saying, "Lord, even the demons are subject to us in your name". And he said to them, "I saw Satan fall like lightning from heaven. I have given you authority to tread upon serpents and over all the power of the enemy, and nothing shall hurt you. Nevertheless, do not rejoice in this, that the spirits are subject to you; but rejoice that your names are written in heaven".

How can we put the Word of the Week into action?

We see Jesus appointing 72 followers and instructing them to go out in pairs to prepare the way for his message, spreading joy, hope and the promise of God's love throughout the lands. Their mission was not only a call to evangelism but also a deepening of their relationship with God, emphasizing that true joy is found not in success, but in being rooted in faith.

To fulfil our own mission as disciples of Jesus in today's world, we must embrace the idea that discipleship invites us to commit ourselves to a life of service. Jesus sent his disciples out in pairs; we too must recognise the strength we gain from collaboration. By working with others, whether within our community, our school, or beyond, we can amplify our efforts to share love and kindness, mirroring the very purpose of Jesus' teachings.

"Brothers and sisters, this is the hour for love!" To bind up the wounds in our families, nations, and Church is the mission we need today—a mission of true love for a suffering world."

Actions to complete this week:

- Actively participate in our community – chose one thing to do to show that you are fulfilling Jesus' mission.
- Bring something in for our school foodbank – food is distributed to families in our local community.
- As a form group pray for a cause close to your hearts.
- Smile at a stranger – it could brighten their day.
- Ask a teacher if they need help with something.
- Help out around your home – without being asked.
- Live simply and sustainably – at lunch and break use our new bins to recycle your rubbish correctly.
- Buy a reusable water bottle – reduce waste to show your care for Creation.
- Think about signing up to go on retreat to Castlerigg or sign up for Lourdes to enhance your faith and help others.



Prayers for the week ahead.

Dear Lord,

You sent your disciples out to share the news about the Kingdom of God. The disciples spread your word and worked well as a community. May we be like the disciples showing love and respect to all those whom we meet so that we can strengthen the fabric of our community.

Amen

Dear Lord,

Help us to nurture our school environment by striving to cultivate a culture of respect and understanding, encouraging inclusivity and empathy amongst our classmates. May we develop a school community where every voice is heard and where everyone feels valued as we work together in spreading Jesus' mission of love and acceptance.

Amen

Dear Lord,

May we reflect upon Jesus' teaching through prayer and action. May we encourage one another to engage in devotion and worship. May we carry out the lessons of discipleship and mission through serving others in love, fostering community, promoting joy and engaging in prayerful reflection. May we embody the mission of the disciples with positivity.

Amen

Reflection points

Are you embarrassed about your faith or are you happy to share it with others?

Do you help our school community by being the best you can be, or do you cause disruption for others?

Do you listen thoroughly to the prayers of the week, or do you let your mind wander?

Do you help develop the mission of our school community where you feel valued and you value others?

Are you a good citizen showing respect and love in your local community?

Are you kind and forgiving or do you reject others?

Are you open to the idea of God's kingdom and making the world a better place for everyone?

Luke 18:1-8 The parable of the Widow and the Unrighteous judge.

Jesus told them a parable, to illustrate that they ought always to pray and not lose heart. He said,

"In a certain city there was a judge who neither feared God nor regarded man; and there was a widow in that city who kept coming to him saying, 'Vindicate me against my adversary'. For a while he refused, but afterward he said to himself, 'Though I neither fear God nor regard man, yet because this widow bothers me, I will vindicate her, or she will wear me out with her continual asking.'"

And the Lord said, "Hear what the unrighteous judge says. And will not God vindicate his elect, who cry to him every day and night? Will he delay long over them? I tell you, he will vindicate them speedily. Nevertheless, when the Son of Man comes, will he find faith on earth?"

Pray and do not lose heart!

In Luke 18 Jesus is enforcing the importance of prayer. The widow keeps going back to the unrighteous/corrupt judge pleading for justice. He eventually grants her request to stop her from annoying him. Jesus uses this parable to show that God will grant justice swiftly to those who cry out to him in prayer.

Sometimes it is hard to pray – especially if we are busy or if we don't feel like praying. Jesus is clear here – praying is essential. Be persistent in prayer – they will be answered, but not always in the way we want. Don't give up hope in prayer or in God – we reflect the widow; she never gave up in her journey for justice. God is not reflected in the judge here – God is more willing to help; he listens and hears our prayers.

