

The Mission of the Seventy-two

Luke, Chapter 10, Verses 1-24

Excerpt from verses 1-5

(1) After this the Lord appointed seventy-two others whom he sent ahead of him in pairs to every town and place he intended to visit. (2) He said to them, "The harvest is abundant, but the laborers are few; so ask the master of the harvest to send out laborers for his harvest. (3) Go on your way; behold, I am sending you like lambs among wolves. (4) Carry no money bag, no sack, no sandals; and greet no one along the way. (5) Into whatever house you enter, first say, 'Peace to this household.'

Personal reflection of Craig O'Brien

Just like the seventy-two, we are called to follow Jesus and go forth sharing His message and inviting others into a relationship with God. After studying this scripture, I realize when Jesus references the abundant harvest in verse 2, He is referring to the relationship with God. And by asking the master of the harvest to send out laborers for his harvest, he is asking the seventy-two to pray for the mission. This is God's call to us still, and He offers a bountiful relationship with Him through prayer and service.

We are called to serve in his name - to offer peace to our neighbor and to help the sick, the poor and those in need. At St. Luke, we are provided many opportunities to do this, whether as a Knight, like myself, or through any of the ministries that serve our parish and our community. God offers us joy in heaven by doing His work here on earth.

Jesus reaffirms this at the end of the passage, when He speaks to the privileges of discipleship saying, "*blessed are the eyes that see what you see.*" When we act as Jesus has taught us, we will experience His grace, and we will see what many prophets and kings desired to see but did not because they lack a relationship with God.