GROUP DISCUSSION QUESTIONS:

* **Do you enjoy do-it-yourself projects? Why or why not?**
* **When you sense God wants you to do something for Him, do you ever try to accomplish it using your own resources? Why do you think we have the tendency to do that?**

**Main Point**

We must trust in the power and provision of Christ as He changes our perspective from “come and see” to “go and do.”

When God calls us to accomplish a task, a do-it-yourself attitude results in two things: pride (if you believe you can accomplish it alone) and doubt (if you don’t trust He can provide through you). Before Jesus’ disciples could represent Him well, they had to shift their thinking away from their own power and ability toward His. In Luke 9 and 10, we will see how Jesus challenged His disciples to actively join Him in His kingdom work. The only way to participate in Jesus’ kingdom work is by relying on Him and tapping into His power and provision.

Have a volunteer read Luke 9:1-9.

* **Does the thought of carrying out Jesus’ mission in the world ever feel intimidating to you? How so?**
* **Why did Jesus command His disciples to begin their mission with such little provision (vv. 3-4)? What are the things we are tempted to bring along that we believe will equip us over what Jesus provides us?**
* **With this commission from Jesus, the disciples’ mission shifted from “come and see” to “go and do.” What does that mean? Why is that an important transition for disciples of Christ?**

Up to this point, the disciples had been watching Jesus and learning from Him. Then, Jesus empowered the Twelve with divine authority and sent them on a mission to preach, heal, and cast out demons. The apostles were to be dependent on whom they lodged with and were to move on if a family or town did not welcome them. Jesus’ mission was not only to bring the kingdom of God to earth, but to equip us to join Him in that task.

Have a volunteer read Luke 10:1-12.

* **What did Jesus mean by sending His disciples out as “lambs among wolves” (Luke 10:3)? Why would Jesus send lambs out to do the impossible task of confronting wolves? What are the implications for us today as the sent lambs of Christ?**
* **What does this tell us about where we should look for strength as we seek to share the gospel with others?**
* **What are the biggest obstacles for us in sharing the gospel with others? How might we submit these areas to Him, seeking to rely on His provision and not our own?**

A lamb has no chance of defending itself against the attack of a ferocious wolf. This implies that we cannot force anyone to convert to Christianity. The only way we can hope to reap a harvest as we spread the gospel is by realizing that we are powerless to change anyone’s heart. If the disciples were to have any success in ministry, they had to look beyond their own strengths and abilities to the all-sufficiency of Christ. This is why Jesus tells His disciples not to carry a money bag, knapsack, or sandals. He challenged them to rely completely on Him. We have the same challenge today.

**Application**

Help your group identify how the truths from the Scripture passage apply directly to their lives.

* **What is your mission in life? How does God’s kingdom fit in? Where do you need to shift your priorities or values in order for them to be in line with God’s kingdom?**
* **Why is it critical that we lean on Christ as we seek to do the things He commands? What tends to happen when we don’t rely on Him?**
* **Why is it important for Christians to have a global perspective on the mission of God?**
* **When do you feel inadequate to participate in Christ’s kingdom work? How might knowing that Christ is living in you (Gal. 2:20) help you overcome such feelings of inadequacy?**

**Pray**

Thank God for empowering us to join Him in His kingdom work. Thank Him for establishing His kingdom in our hearts when we trusted Christ as Lord and Savior. Ask Him to help us to overcome our insecurities and begin serving in His kingdom through His power and provision. Ask God to help us think