

**Background:** *this study outline was used at day conference held in the Diocese of Chelmsford, England during a visit to the diocese of a number of clergy and lay leaders from churches in Kenya, Romania and Sweden that were in a Companion Link relationship with Chelmsford. They wanted to explore the Bible together and be intentional about reflecting on how the text was seen in three very different contexts.*

*While this study outline is specific to this situation the translations of the bible used and the nature of the questions can be adapted for any cross-cultural group of participants.*

## **Introduction**

The Anglican Communion, in common with all other denominations, holds a high view on the *place and authority* of Scripture in its life, as numerous resolutions, reports and other official documents attest. Yet with 85 million Anglicans in over 165 countries, we have sometimes had *different understandings* of the Bible's place in our life and what it is saying to us in our own contexts. While we can work hard on finding this out for our own context, might it also be helpful to learn how others are seeking to do the same thing in their context?

But before we do this – by engaging together with a passage of Scripture let's think for a few minutes about what frame of mind we need to approach this exercise in order to learn from one another.

In mixed groups of 4 or 5:

- When you hear the words "Bible Study" what do they mean for you?

Discussion and some feedback.

- If today is about how we might learn from one another what might it be helpful to bear in mind in order to get the most out of our discussions? [One example: not everyone here speaks English as their first language but all our talking *together* will be in English. So perhaps we will need to listen more carefully, speak more slowly, ask questions about what people mean by what they say etc] So what other things do we need to bear in mind?

Discussion and some feedback.



**Bible Study** – Luke 10:1-12 [read in the five most common languages of the participants]

**10** After this the Lord appointed seventy-two<sup>[a]</sup> 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! I am sending you out like lambs among wolves. **4** Do not take a purse or bag or sandals; and do not greet anyone on the road.

**5** "When you enter a house, first say, 'Peace to this house.' **6** If someone who promotes peace is there, your peace will rest on them; if not, it will return to you. **7** Stay there, eating and drinking whatever they give you, for the worker deserves his wages. Do not move around from house to house.

**8** "When you enter a town and are welcomed, eat what is offered to you. **9** Heal the sick who are there and tell them, 'The kingdom of God has come near to you.' **10** But when you enter a town and are not welcomed, go into its streets and say, **11** 'Even the dust of your town we wipe from our feet as a warning to you. Yet be sure of this: The kingdom of God has come near.' **12** I tell you, it will be more bearable on that day for Sodom than for that town.

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Baada ya hayo, Yesu akawachagua wengine sabini na wawili, akawatuma wawili wawili katika kila mji na kila sehemu aliyokusudia kwenda Yeye mwenyewe. **2**Akawaambia, "Mavuno ni mengi, lakini watenda kazi ni wachache. Kwa hiyo mwombeni Bwana wa mavuno, awapeleke watenda kazi katika shamba lake. **3**Haya, nendeni. Ninawatuma kama kondoo katikati ya mbwa mwitu. **4**Msichukue mkoba wala mfuko, wala viatu na msimsalimu mtu ye yote njiani. watuma Wale Sabini Na Wawili

**5**"Mkiingia katika nyumba yo yote kwanza semeni, 'Amani iwe kwenu.' **6**Kama kuna mtu wa amani humo, basi amani yenu itakuwa juu yake, la sivyoye itawarudia. **7**Kaeni katika nyumba hiyo, mkila na kunywa kile watakachowapa, kwa sababu kila mtenda kazi anastahili malipo yake. Msihamehame kutoka nyumba hadi nyumba.

**8**"Mkienda katika mji na watu wake wakawakaribisha, kuleni cho chote kiwekwacho mbele yenu, **9**waponyeni wagonjwa waliomo na waambieni: 'Ufalme wa Mungu umekaribia.' **10**Lakini mkiingia katika mji, nao hawakuwakaribisha, tokeni mwende katika barabara zake mkaseme: **11**'Hata mavumbi ya mji wenu yaliyoshikamana na miguu yetu, tunayakung'uta dhidi yenu. Lakini mjue kwamba Ufalme wa Mungu umekaribia.' **12**Ninawaambia, hukumu ya Mungu katika Sodoma itavumilika zaidi kuliko ya mji ule.

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Bang' mani, Ruoth noyiero ji piero abiriyo gariyo ma moko, kendo noorogi ariyo, ariyo mondo otel nyime e taonde duto kod kamoro amora mane obiro dhiyo e. **2**Nowachonegi ni, "Cham ochiek mathoth, to jotich nok kuom mano kwauru Ruodh ke yo mondo oor jotich odhi e puothe mar ke yo. **3**Dhiuru! Aorou oko mana ka rombe e dier ondiegi. **4**Kik uting' ofuk pesa, kat a sandug wuoth, kata mana opat o, kendo kik umos ng'ato e yo.

**5**Ka udonjo e ot to wachuru mokuongo ni, kuwe obedi e odni." **6**Ka ng'at kuwe ni k a n yo to kuwe maru nobed kuome; to ka ok kamano, to kuweuno noduog n u . **7**Beduru e odno, ka uchamo kendo umadho gimoro amora ma gimiyou, nimar j atich owinjore gi pokne. Kik uring ka ua e ot ka ot.

**8**Ka udonjo e taon mi orwaku to chamuru gino ma oket e nyimu. **9**Changuru jomatuo man kanyo kendo wachnegiuru ni, "Loch Nya s aye chieg n l kodu," **1** OTo ka udonjo e taon moro to ok orwaku, dhiuru e



yoregi matindo kendo uwach ni, 1 1" Kata mana buch taundu momoko e tiendewa wateng'o kuomu. To beduru kung'eyo maler ni, 'Loch Piny ruoth Nya s aye chiengini." 1 2Awacho uni, nobed maber berie ni Sodom maloyo taondno.

<sup>1</sup>Jesus valde nu ut sjuttio lärjungar och skickade dem i förväg, två och två, till alla städer och byar som han senare tänkte besöka. <sup>2</sup>Innan de begav sig iväg, sa han till dem: Be skördens Herre att sända ut fler arbetare för att hjälpa er, för skörden är stor och arbetarna få. <sup>3</sup>Gå nu, och kom ihåg att jag sänder ut er som lamm bland vargar.<sup>4</sup>Ta inte med er några pengar eller någon säck med kläder, eller ens ett extra par skor. Och ta väl vara på tiden.

<sup>5</sup>När ni kommer in i ett hem så ge det er välsignelse. <sup>6</sup>Om man tar emot den så kommer den att stanna kvar över det hemmet. Annars återvänder den till er. <sup>7</sup>Flytta inte från hus till hus när ni kommer till en plats, utan stanna där man tar emot er och ät och drick det som ställs fram åt er. Tveka inte när man visar er gästfrihet, för arbetaren är värd sin lön.

<sup>8-9</sup>Om man i en stad välkomnar er, så följ dessa två regler: Ät det som sätts fram åt er och bota de sjuka. När ni botar dem ska ni säga: 'Nu börjar Guds rike bland er!' <sup>10</sup>Men om man i en stad inte vill veta av er så gå ut på gatorna och säg:<sup>11</sup>'Ni har dömt er själva. Till och med dammet från era gator borstar vi av våra fötter. Det ska vittna mot er. Men ni ska ha klart för er att Guds rike är nära!' <sup>12</sup>Till och med det gudlösa Sodom kommer på domens dag att få det bättre än en sådan stad.

1 După aceea Domnul a mai rînduit alți șaptezeci de ucenici, și i -a trimes doi câte doi înaintea Lui, în toate cetățile și în toate locurile, pe unde avea să treacă El. 2 Și le -a zis: „Mare este secerișul, dar puțini sînt lucrătorii! Rugați dar pe Domnul secerișului să scoată lucrători la secerișul Său.

3 Duceți-vă; iată, vă trimet ca pe niște miei în mijlocul lupilor. 4 Să nu luați cu voi nici pungă, nici traistă, nici încălțăminte, și să nu întrebați pe nimeni de sănătate pe drum.

5 În orice casă veți intra, să ziceți întâi: „Pacea să fie peste casa aceasta!” 6 Și dacă va fi acolo un fiu al păcii, pacea voastră va rămînea peste el; altminteri ea se va întoarce la voi. 7 Să rămîneți în casa aceea, și să mîncăți și să beți ce vi se va da; căci vrednic este lucrătorul de plata sa. Să nu umblați din casă în casă.

8 În oricare cetate veți intra și unde vă vor primi oamenii, să mîncăți ce vi se va pune înainte; 9 să vindecați pe bolnavii cari vor fi acolo, și să le ziceți: „Împărăția lui Dumnezeu s'a apropiat de voi.” 10 Dar în oricare cetate veți intra, și nu vă vor primi, să vă duceți pe ulițele ei, și să ziceți: 11 „Scutură-mă împotriva voastră, chiar și praful din cetatea voastră, care s'a lipit de picioarele noastre; totuș să știți că Împărăția lui Dumnezeu s'a apropiat de voi.” 12 Eu vă spun că, în ziua judecării va fi mai ușor pentru Sodoma decît pentru cetatea aceea.



**In groups:**

*Reading the passage*

- Read it aloud slowly in an English version different from the one on the hand-out
- Pause for a minute to individually reflect in silence on the passage
- Read it aloud slowly in a Kenyan translation
- Pause for a minute to individually reflect in silence on the passage
- Read it aloud slowly in a Swedish or Romanian translation
- Pause for a minute to individually reflect in silence on the passage
- Read it a final time in the English translation on the participant sheets
- Pause for a minute to individually reflect in silence on the passage

*Understanding the story*

- Ask the non-Chelmsford participants if they noticed any differences between their own and the English translations. What were they? What significance did they have for them?
- How do you think this passage fits into Luke's overall story of Jesus?
- What is this story about?

*Learning from the story*

- How does verse 2 speak to life in Kenya/Sweden/Romania?
- How does it speak to life in Chelmsford?
- What do you think the detailed instructions in verses 3-11 are saying to us today in our contexts?

*Learning from one another*

- Are there insights you received today because you were exploring it with those from different geographical locations?

Some feedback and reflection on the whole process of this exploration together.

