**Looking for Strength in All the Wrong Places[[1]](#footnote-1)**

**Luke 10:1-42**

3 wrong places to find your strength

**I. Your Accomplishments**

A. The ministry progression

1. Jesus teaching and meeting needs – Luke 4-8

2. The twelve disciples sent out to teach and meet needs – Luke 9

3. The seventy sent out to teach and meet needs

**Luke 10:1** - *Now after this the Lord appointed seventy others, and sent them in pairs ahead of Him to every city and place where He Himself was going to come.*

**2 Timothy 2:2** - *The things which you have heard from me in the presence of many witnesses, entrust these to faithful men who will be able to teach others also.*

B. The ministry challenges

1. Scarcity of workers

**Luke 10:2** - *And He was saying to them, “The harvest is plentiful, but the laborers are few; therefore beseech the Lord of the harvest to send out laborers into His harvest.”*

2. The need to trust Christ for provision and sustenance

**Luke 10:3** - *Go; behold, I send you out as lambs in the midst of wolves.*

**Luke 10:4** - *Carry no money belt, no bag, no shoes; and greet no one on the way.*

3. Surety of judgment for those who reject the message

**Luke 10:10-16** - *But whatever city you enter and they do not receive you, go out into its streets and say, “Even the dust of your city which clings to our feet we wipe off in protest against you; yet be sure of this, that the kingdom of God has come near.” I say to you, it will be more tolerable in that day for Sodom than for that city. Woe to you, Chorazin! Woe to you, Bethsaida! For if the miracles had been performed in Tyre and Sidon which occurred in you, they would have repented long ago, sitting in sackcloth and ashes...The one who listens to you listens to Me, and the one who rejects you rejects Me; and he who rejects Me rejects the One who sent Me.*

C. The ministry results

1. Great success

**Luke 10:17** - *The seventy returned with joy, saying, “Lord, even the demons are subject to us in Your name.”*

2. Spiritual confirmation

**Luke 10:18-19** - *And He said to them, “I was watching Satan fall from heaven like lightning. Behold, I have given you authority to tread on serpents and scorpions, and over all the power of the enemy, and nothing will injure you.”*

D. The ministry lesson

**Luke 10:20** - *Nevertheless do not rejoice in this, that the spirits are subject to you, but rejoice that your names are recorded in heaven.*

**Titus 3:5-7** - *He saved us, not on the basis of deeds which we have done in righteousness, but according to His mercy, by the washing of regeneration and renewing by the Holy Spirit, whom He poured out upon us richly through Jesus Christ our Savior, so that being justified by His grace we would be made heirs according to the hope of eternal life.*

**II. Your Ability**

A. The lawyer’s question

**Luke 10:25** - *And a lawyer stood up and put Him to the test, saying, “Teacher, what shall I do to inherit eternal life?”*

**Mark 10:17** - *As He was setting out on a journey, a man ran up to Him and knelt before Him, and asked Him, “Good Teacher, what shall I do to inherit eternal life?”*

**Mark 10:20** - *And he said to Him, “Teacher, I have kept all these things from my youth up.”*

**Mark 10:21-22** - *Looking at him, Jesus felt a love for him and said to him, “One thing you lack: go and sell all you possess and give to the poor, and you will have treasure in heaven; and come, follow Me.”*

**Mark 10:22** - *But at these words he was saddened, and he went away grieving, for he was one who owned much property.*

B. Jesus’ response

**Luke 10:26** - *And He said to him, “What is written in the Law? How does it read to you?”*

**Luke 10:28** - *And He said to him, “You have answered correctly; do this and you will live.”*

C. The lawyer’s motivation

**Luke 10:29** - *But wishing to justify himself, he said to Jesus, “And who is my neighbor?”*

D. The Savior’s story

**Psalm 28:6-9** - *Blessed be the Lord, because He has heard the voice of my supplication. The Lord is my strength and my shield; my heart trusts in Him, and I am helped; therefore my heart exults, and with my song I shall thank Him. The Lord is their strength, and He is a saving defense to His anointed. Save Your people and bless Your inheritance; be their shepherd also, and carry them forever.*

**III. Your Activities**

A. Mary’s focus

**Luke 10:39** - *She had a sister called Mary, who was seated at the Lord’s feet, listening to His word.*

B. Martha’s complaint

**Luke 10:40** - *But Martha was distracted with all her preparations; and she came up to Him and said, “Lord, do You not care that my sister has left me to do all the serving alone? Then tell her to help me.”*

C. Jesus’ lesson

**Luke 10:41-42** - *But the Lord answered and said to her, “Martha, Martha, you are worried and bothered about so many things; but only one thing is necessary, for Mary has chosen the good part, which shall not be taken away from her.”*

1. Steve Viars [↑](#footnote-ref-1)