**OCF Small Groups:** *passionately pursuing God, healthy relationships with each other, and people who don’t know Jesus, as part of an intimate group living this life of faith together.*

This Week’s Scripture: **9:51 – 10:24**

1. When they start their journey toward Jerusalem, Jesus sends messengers (the word can also mean "angels") ahead of him. Luke wants to remind us that this is indeed an exodus journey. In the book of Exodus itself (23:20) God "sends his angel before you" to guide the people into the land. But Jesus’ is also a new exodus journey; the prophet Malachi (3:1) declares that God will send his angel, or messenger, before him, so that when he arrives to judge and save, the people will be ready. James and John seem to believe that they are now in the same position as Elijah in the Old Testament. If they meet opposition, they want to call down fire from heaven (2 Kings 1:10-12).

Why does Jesus “rebuke” (v.55) James and John instead of giving them a simple “no” for an answer? Would Jesus’ rebuke challenge their position or mindset? Why or why not?

1. Jesus declares that not all are “fit for the kingdom of God” (v.62). What priorities would characterize those who are fit for the kingdom?
2. Of the issues listed here (comfort, social obligations, family concerns), which one would tempt you to look back (v.62) instead of move forward with Jesus?
3. In this instance of Jesus sending out his disciples (vv. 1-16), what clues in the text reveal that their mission is a matter of real urgency?
4. How is the Christian disciple like a “laborer in the harvest” (v.2)?
5. When have you felt like a lamb among wolves (v3)? What did you learn from that experience?
6. What do you think about the harvest where you live? Are people ripe for the Gospel?
7. How involved are you as a “laborer in the harvest”?
8. How does the message in v.16 apply to believers and unbelievers today?
9. Describe the authority Jesus gives His disciples in verse 19. In what sense is this verse true for us today?
10. How does one come to know the Father and the Son (v.22)?
11. What assurance do you find your own salvation?

**SCRIPTURE MEMORIZATION**

Meditate on Luke 10:2

And he said to them, “The harvest is plentiful, but the laborers are few. Therefore pray earnestly to the Lord of the harvest to send out laborers into his harvest.

**PRAY**

Offer to God your doubts or fears about where Jesus is asking you to labor for his harvest. Wait for him to point out places where you are tempted to look back when you should be looking ahead. Ask him for strength and courage to move forward as his laborer, for His kingdom.