

Jesus Sent Out Seventy-Two Evangelists

Teach children the importance going to other places to make disciples.



Prayer. “Lord, help us to take the gospel to places where people do not know yet that Jesus can forgive their sins and bring joy into their lives.”

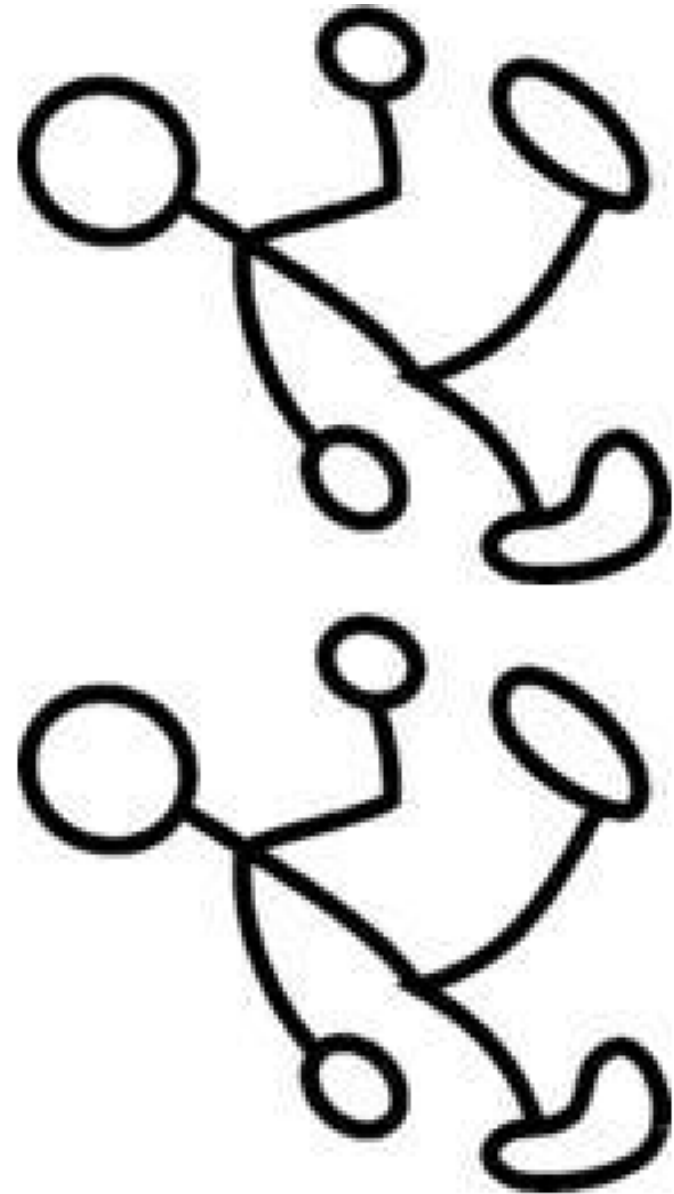
Choose children's learning activities that fit their needs and ages.

Read in **Luke 10:1-20** how Jesus sent out seventy-two of His disciples to announce the Kingdom of God. It shows how Jesus trained them in small groups to carry on his ministry, so that the gospel would reach all the nations of the world.

Let the teacher or an older child relate the story from **Luke 10:1-20**.

Ask these **questions**. *[Verse numbers for answers follow each question.]*

- How many workers went in each group? *[Verse 1. He sent them two by two.]*
- For what did they pray first? *[2]*
- Did they go meekly, or with a fighting spirit? *[3]*
- How much equipment did they take? *[4. Jesus wanted them to take as little as possible, relying on God rather than on material things.]*
- Did they stop and visit with friends along the way? *[4]*
- Did they continue to lodge with a person who welcomed them peacefully? *[5-8]*



Poem. Let two children each recite a verse from Isaiah 52:7-8, or let four children each recite a verse from Isaiah 52:7-10.

Let **older children** write a poem or song using Jesus' words from Luke 10:2 or some other verse in Luke 10.

Memorize together Mark 1:15.

Prayer. "Father, help us to carry the good news about Jesus to other people. Keep us from getting distracted by the things of this world. Help us follow the example of Jesus' disciples. Let us bring glory to your name like they did."

- What two activities did they do as they visited the people? [9]
- What did Jesus say to do where people rejected the good news? [10-11]
- What happened to Satan's power when the disciples obeyed Christ? [18]
- What did Jesus say was more important than binding demons? [20]

Dramatize parts of the story of the Seventy Evangelists. Arrange with the leader of the main congregational worship for the children to present this drama. Let the older children help the younger ones to prepare.

- Let **older children or adults** play the parts of **Jesus, Enemy, and Narrator**. It is better if an adult plays the Enemy.
- Let **younger children** play the parts of **Evangelists and People**.

Narrator: Tell the first part of the story, from Luke 10:1-16. Then say, "Hear what Jesus tells His disciples after they asked God to send out workers."

Jesus: "Go in groups of two. Be careful like lambs among wolves. Tell the Good News. Heal the sick. Tell each town that I am coming soon. The Kingdom of God is near."

Disciples: "What shall we take with us?"

Jesus: “Take as little as possible. Hurry! Do not visit on the way; the message is urgent!”

Disciples: “Where shall we stay?”

Jesus: “Find a man of peace. Lodge with him while you are in that town. Eat his food.”

Disciples: “What shall we do if the people reject us?”

Jesus: “If you have made the message clear and they still reject you, then go elsewhere.”

Disciples: (Go about the room in pairs saying things like:)
“Hear the Good News! It changed our lives.” “Be healed in the name of Jesus!” “Receive God’s forgiveness in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ!”

Enemy: “My name is Enemy! I hate all men!”
(Follow the disciples and say, in your own words:)
“Do not go in groups of two. Stay together in bigger groups, for it is safer!”
“Take a lot of equipment with you. It will impress people!”
“Take plenty of food with you!”
“Visit your friends along the way!”
“Do not lodge only in one house. Find where the food is better!”
“If they reject your message, do not give up. Keep pushing them to accept it!”
“It is unfair for anyone to hear the gospel twice before everyone has heard it once. So simply leave a gospel tract at every door in the town.”

Disciples: As Enemy says those things, mention Jesus’ opposite instructions.

Narrator: Tell the Second Part of the story, from Luke 10:17-23. Then say, “Hear what the disciples tell Jesus when they return.”

Disciples: “Lord Jesus, we are joyful! Your name is powerful! We used your authority to heal people! Thank you for passing on your power to us! We even bound demons!”

Jesus: “Do not rejoice about being powerful, but that your names are written in heaven.”
(Pray) “Father, I praise you for working through men who are as weak as children. I have passed on my power and truth to them as you told me to do.”

Narrator: Thank everyone who helped.

Questions. If the children dramatize this story for the adults, then let them also ask the adults the questions listed above.

Let the children draw a simple **picture** of two people walking on a road. Let the children copy it. Let the children show their pictures to the adults during the next worship time and explain that it illustrates how believers take the Good News about Jesus to people in other places.

Discuss how to teach people to obey Jesus. Let the children give examples.