

Studies in the Life of Christ

NT Survey Lesson 17--Luke 9

Introduction: By this time in Jesus' ministry, the twelve were ready to be sent out on their own to preach and to confirm their words by miracles. The feeding of the five thousand was a turning point in Jesus' ministry. In the next lesson we will consider the aftermath of this miracle. From this time onward Jesus began to concentrate more on the need to prepare His disciples for His death and their work afterward.

Lesson aim: To show why so few people became Jesus' true disciples.

The twelve are sent out to preach--Luke 9:1-10

1. What powers did Jesus give the twelve before sending them out?
2. What instruction did He give them about their work?
3. Did the twelve accomplish what the Lord had asked them to do?
4. What were the masses saying about Jesus? What was Herod's attitude?

The feeding of the five thousand--Luke 9:12-17

1. With what did Jesus start when He performed this miracle? What was left over afterward?
2. What kind of miracle was this? What does it say about Jesus?

(The material in Luke 9:18-48 will be considered in a later lesson from Matthew's gospel).

The disciples complain of "competition"--Luke 9:49-50

1. What observation did John make about someone he had seen?
2. What had been the disciples' reaction? Why?
3. What did Jesus say concerning this man?

Jesus sets his face toward Jerusalem--Luke 9:51-56

(Please note that Luke compresses events from a rather wide span of time into one chapter. This event actually occurs after the episodes that we shall study from Matthew 15-18.)

1. What was the reaction of the Samaritans when they heard that Jesus was passing through their country to go to Jerusalem?
2. How did James and John react to this rejection?
3. Was their attitude correct? What did Jesus say?

The cost of discipleship--Luke 9:57-62

1. What promising statement did a bystander make to Jesus?
2. What was Jesus' response?
3. What excuse did one give for not following immediately?
4. What did Jesus mean "let the dead bury the dead"?
5. What condition did another put on following Jesus?
6. What does it mean to "put one's hand to the plow and look back"? What did Jesus say about a person?