WEEK 28:

PRACTICAL OPERATIONS

PRIMARY SCRIPTURE:

Luke 10:1-24

RELATED SCRIPTURES:

Psalm 67, Matthew 9:35-38 + 10:16-33, Mark 6:7-13, Luke 11:1-11, Acts 28:17-31, 1 Thessalonians 2:1-16, 2 Thessalonians 3:1-5

"When Jesus sent them out he told them that they would experience welcome and rejection. He gave them instructions on what to do when they were welcomed and when they were not welcomed. He made it clear that to go out on this mission was to 'out' yourself as a follower of Jesus, and see how people responded. Some will receive you. Others will reject you. Or worse. And until we're ready to face that, we won't find a Person of Peace."

- Ben Sternke

"God's goal to be glorified in a world full of white-hot worshippers from every people and tongue and tribe and nation will not succeed without the powerful proclamation of the gospel by people like you and me. And that gospel will not be proclaimed in power to all the nations without the persevering, earnest, global, faith filled prayers of God's people."

- John Piper

PERSONAL STUDY:

Read Psalm 67 and Luke 10:1-2. What is Jesus' goal for the mission?

What are the practical mission implications of Jesus' statement: "The harvest is plentiful, but the laborers are few"?

Do you approach the mission as if prayer is the most important aspect? Why or why not? When you pray for friends you want to know Jesus, do you regularly pray for Jesus to bring other Christians around them?

Spend some time praying for God to call more people to his mission field here in Columbia.

Read Luke 10:5-7. Who are people of peace in your life (i.e. people who don't know Jesus, like you and are interested in conversations about Jesus)?

Read Luke 10:3-16. Jesus reiterates that some people will receive the gospel and Jesus' disciples and some people will not. Does the thought of people rejecting you and the gospel bring any fears or anxieties to your mind?

v. 17-20 – How does Jesus use this opportunity to celebrate with His disciples? What are things you look for to know when you should celebrate?

How does Jesus use this opportunity to celebrate as a teaching moment?

SERMON NOTES:

LIFEGROUP DISCUSSION:

What people and situations did Jesus use to bring you to faith? What things attracted you to Jesus? What things were (or still are) your biggest obstacles to Jesus?

Read Luke 10:1-2. What changes about our approach to mission when we realize that the harvest is plentiful? How does that truth affect how we pray and live?

Read Luke 10:3-16. Are you willing to be rejected for the sake of Jesus' kingdom advancing? Why or why not?

Who are people of peace that Jesus has put into your life and how can we help you help them take next steps toward Jesus?

Read Luke 10:17-20. What does Jesus mean in v. 20? How can we celebrate ministry wins without believing we are saved by ministry wins?

Spend some time celebrating where Jesus has been at work in the lives of those your group is building with. Pray for eyes to see the people Jesus is working in around and to respond with confidence and warm invitation.

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