

### **Missionary Adventures and Staying On Course** - Lessons from Luke 10 for MissionNews #10

Luke 10:8-9 ⇒ says to us missionaries, “And into whatever city you enter, and they receive you, eat the things set before you. And heal the sick in it, and say to them, ‘The kingdom of God has drawn near to you.’”



For us here as missionaries in Coatesville, this means we eat out of boxes from a food bank ◀ with such labels as this one. The food inside can range from something old from another country to fresh organic produce to moldy rotten stuff to a restaurant supply of a favorite food. All in all, a very small price to pay for being able to personally touch lives for eternity... people marginalized and unaware that the God of the universe died to have intimacy with them. Some have heard it before; but many never witnessed it before, so we love on them.

Luke 10 has other missionary stories; and instructions, including how we need to stay more excited about our own salvation than even about demons obeying our authority in Jesus’ name. God must be our #1 priority:

♣The 1<sup>st</sup> and greatest commandment is to love God passionately ⇒ Matthew 22:37-38 from Deuteronomy 6:5.

♣The 2<sup>nd</sup> greatest commandment is to love our neighbor as our self ⇒ Matthew 22:39 from Leviticus 19:18.

As missionaries who have given our very lives to the 2<sup>nd</sup>, we are very aware of how easy it is to neglect the 1<sup>st</sup>.

The Bible prioritizes them and lists them separately because they are two different activities, as Luke 10 says:

Luke 10:38-42 ⇒ explains: Martha focused on people (the 2<sup>nd</sup> part) and her sister Mary focused on Jesus (the 1<sup>st</sup> part) who visited them and said, “Martha, Martha, you are anxious and troubled about many things.

But one thing is needful, and Mary has chosen that good part, which shall not be taken away from her.” Mary

spent time listening to God... all our #1 priority in life. A humanist can love his neighbor, and even call himself a Christian, but Matthew 7:21-23 ⇒ says loving people without loving God more is *not* Christianity. Matthew

25:32-46 and 1 John 4:20 ⇒ say the reverse is *also not* Christianity: loving God without loving people. *Worse*

yet is loving self more than loving God ⇒ 2 Timothy 3:2-5. We enjoy the simple beauty of following the Bible.

### **What is a Missionary?**

Besides all Christians being missionaries in their own ways, God calls some of us to full time missionary work. Both Old and New Testaments show this. Jesus is happy with God in ⇒ Luke 10:21-24 about how ↓ the

most important work in life, the Gospel, gets done by seemingly unlikely people: “In that hour Jesus rejoiced in Spirit and said, I thank You, Father, Lord of Heaven and earth, that You have hidden these things from the sophisticated and cunning, and have revealed them to babes. Yes, Father, for so it was pleasing before You.”

Missionaries **are** unlikely people ⇒ 1 Corinthians 1:26-27 who preach a Gospel that seems foolish ⇒ 1 Corinthians 1:18-21 using simple words... yet having the power of God ⇒ 1 Corinthians 2:1-5. Receivers of the

Gospel spend eternity rejoicing, and mockers spend eternity suffering in hell remembering their mockery of God... how they rejected God’s simple salvation explained by some missionary... full time, part time, whatever!

A missionary is anyone who shares the goodness God gave to them... *at whatever the cost*. Why? Because

they remember this life is short, eternity is forever, and most importantly: it’s God’s heart, and it’s good! God

already gave us more than we deserve; being a missionary is simply being thankful with one’s life in return to

God for His undeserved kindness. All God asks us for is: 1) *intimacy with Him*, and 2) *inviting others to Him*.

### **The Good Life of Missionary Living**

We have found nothing as fulfilling as being able to focus our full attention into God’s calling on our life to share the Gospel in *this* mission field. Not that it is always fun or easy, but it does satisfy like nothing else. It is

very interesting to live similar to real Bible missionary characters: no salary or numerically predictable income,

minimal provisions and living accommodations, and focused time and energy to invest into ministry. It brings

an ironic mix of simplicity and responsibility. It helps us die to ourselves and strengthens us to live by faith

without worrying about how we are even going to survive, be able to buy anything, go anywhere, etc. **More!**

## ☑ **The Good Life of Missionary Living** *continued...*

We get to experience the seasons of our humanity transitioning to new levels of trusting God without seeing His plans, or how He will accomplish them. Bible verses about trust spring to life before our very eyes, such as ⇒ Proverbs 3:5-6; Matthew 6:33 and Luke 18:8. We discover what it is like to hear God give us clear and powerful instructions and provisions for starting something without knowing what comes next... relying on His Word that He is faithful to finish what He starts ⇒ 1 Thessalonians 5:24 and Philippians 1:6.

We learn to surpass the earthly myopia of looking foolish and enduring mockery from going from a 6 digit IRS W-2 with all its benefits to a 4 digit IRS 1099 without them... all for obeying a God we cannot see. What is unseen far exceeds what is seen, and knowing this frees us into obeying God ⇒ 2 Corinthians 4:18. Humility becomes a way of life, even as others scorn us for 'depending on others' for finances. We hope those blessed with provisions discover that every penny they have is only by the grace of God, and that being a cheerful giver to missionary support is an entrusted privilege with eternal reward, and not a loathsome burden or a cross to carry. Every Christian can have abundant joy, even as some of you already know in your severe trials.

This is not our home; Heaven is, so we gladly do all this stuff with the end goal ever before us ⇒ Hosea 6:3; Philippians 3:12-14; as Jesus showed us how ⇒ Hebrews 12:1-2. So we are living the good life here... just not how most folks would define it. We certainly invite you to invest into this ministry which has eternal rewards, especially if you cannot pack up and leave to go do missions work yourself; we need the help ⇒ Luke 10:1-3.

### ↓↓ Exciting Stuff ↓↓

**Exciting stuff for us: front-line faith.** We get zero salary: our monthly + one-time support = our entire income. Our current monthly missionary support per family ranges from \$25 to \$100. Our one-time gifts have ranged from a few dollars to a few thousand dollars. **We now need increased monthly support.** One-time gifts *do* meet one-time expenses (like our new \$1,500 vehicle repair bill), and monthly support meets regular needs everyone has. God called us to missionary work, we said Yes, and He will reward us for loving Him in this way.

**Exciting stuff for you: supporter faith.** Supporters bring the Gospel to the mission field without going there. 1 Corinthians 9 ⇒ says missionaries are front-line Gospel soldiers and are supported by people back at home. 2 Corinthians 9 ⇒ says God blesses generous supporters whose motivation is love... not compulsion ☺. Such ministry supporters get eternal treasures in Heaven ⇒ Matthew 6:1-4, 20 and Matthew 10:40-42. *God's plan!*

If you agree with God's heart-driven economics, contact **US** or **OUR NEW OFFICE** for easy support setup:

**US: where we currently live:**

Loren and Kathy Falzone  
720 Buck Run Rd  
Coatesville, PA 19320  
610-384-1001

[contact@CouplesInBloom.com](mailto:contact@CouplesInBloom.com)

**OUR NEW OFFICE: where our support is processed:**

YWAM Lebanon  
1275 Birch Rd  
Lebanon, PA 17042  
717-274-9010

[YWAMPA@comcast.net](mailto:YWAMPA@comcast.net)

- YWAM is a registered 501(c)(3) organization, one of the world's largest charity organizations. Since 1960, it trained 4.5 million people to be missionaries, has 1200 locations in 180 countries with 18,000 volunteers.
- Year-end tax deduction receipts for IRS filing of charitable giving are sent for checks, money orders, PayPal, electronic bank transfers, and credit card gifts made out to YWAM Lebanon *without* our name on it.
- Designate gifts to Loren and Kathy Falzone on a *separate note*... not on the payment itself... per the IRS.

If you do *not* want a year-end tax receipt, just make out- and send- payments to **US**, Loren and Kathy Falzone.

From God, many people, and us: **THANK YOU** for being a partner in this mission field, impacting eternity!

