


LUKE 10: 1 - 10

  
<sup>1</sup>Later the Lord chose seventy-two other followers and sent them out two by two to every town and village where he was about to go. <sup>2</sup>He said to them: A large crop is in the fields, but there are only a few workers. Ask the Lord in charge of the harvest to send out workers to bring it in. <sup>3</sup>Now go, but remember, I am sending you like lambs into a pack of wolves. <sup>4</sup>Don't take along a moneybag or a travelling bag or sandals. And don't waste time greeting people on the road. <sup>5</sup>As soon as you enter a home, say, "God bless this home with peace." <sup>6</sup>If the people living there are peace-loving, your prayer for peace will bless them. But if they are not peace-loving, your prayer will return to you. <sup>7</sup>Stay with the same family, eating and drinking whatever they give you, because workers are worth what they earn. Don't move around from house to house. <sup>8</sup>If the people of a town welcome you, eat whatever they offer. <sup>9</sup>Heal their sick and say, "God's kingdom will soon be here!" <sup>10</sup>But if the people of a town refuse to welcome you, go out into the street and say, <sup>11</sup>"We are shaking the dust from our feet as a warning to you. And you can be sure that God's kingdom will soon be here!"

### Synopsis:

Two characters are enthusiastic to go as missionaries sent by God. They are ready to adopt all kinds of practices which they think missionaries ought to do. They are determined not to be half baked, but to be real 'biblical' missionaries.

But just before they go, they check the Bible and discover there is more than one way of being a missionary. They decide to follow the patterns of Luke 10, which turns out to be something we all can do.

Warning: This sketch is not to 'send up' those engaged in mission. The point is that those on the mission field around the world actually use these principles. The 'caricature' missionary in this skit is only that.

### Script:

*Spencer & Pearl enter singing 'We've a story to tell to the nations' or 'Onward Christian Soldiers'. They are wearing pith helmets, safari suit/floral dress, long socks and sandals. They have a suitcase and a Bible.*

**Spencer:** Pearl, Pearl. Isn't this wonderful. We're going to be *(both take a big breath, then together)*

**Spencer & Pearl:** Missionaries *(sigh)*.

**Interviewer:** *(stepping forward):*  
Really? That's wonderful. Good on you, Pearl. Good on you, Spencer. We're all missionaries here too.

**Spencer:** Oh – yes, but we are going to be real missionaries.

**Pearl:** Biblical missionaries!

**Spencer:** Look girls and boys, we've got our suitcase packed full of things to take. Who can help me open it?  
*(Choose a couple of helpers)*.

**Pearl:** We've got Bibles (*gives a Bible to a child to hold*), because we're going to be biblical missionaries.

**Spencer:** We've got food and money so we don't have to rely on any of the people we are being missionaries to.  
(*Gives fake money and a packed lunch to other children to hold*)

**Spencer:** Be careful with that – it's a mayonnaise and sultana sandwich. They're my favourite!

**Pearl:** (*taking some sandals out of the case*) We've got sandals! And some spares.

**Spencer:** All good biblical missionaries have sandals!

**Interviewer:** That's awesome, Spencer and Pearl. But you keep saying you're going to be biblical missionaries. I'm not sure that all the girls and boys, or even the grownups here, know what you mean by 'biblical'

**Pearl:** We mean that we are going to be missionaries the way people were in the Bible.

**Spencer:** That's right! We're going to do it properly. No going half-hearted, half-baked or half-pace.

**Interviewer:** Ok, so you want to be missionaries like Jesus sent his followers to be missionaries 'on a goodnews mission' in the Bible. That sounds great, doesn't it girls and boys. So where will you be going?

(*Spencer and Pearl answer at the same time*)

**Spencer:** Africa

**Pearl:** South America

**Interviewer:** Uh oh! Haven't you decided where to go yet?

**Spencer:** Oh, we've decided. I'm going to Africa.


**Pearl:** And I'm going to South America.

**Interviewer:** Not together to the same place?

**Spencer:** No – that would slow us down, working together.

**Pearl:** No slacking off for us!

**Interviewer:** Hmm. Africa and South America are both huge continents, is there a particular place you're going to?



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**Pearl:** No, no. I'm not going to settle in one place – that would limit things too much. I'm going to just walk around from place to place and tell people I meet on the road about Jesus.

**Spencer:** Me too! That's our strategy to make the most impact, as biblical missionaries.

**Pearl:** Biblical missionaries.

**Interviewer:** Well, Spencer and Pearl, it's a mighty co-incidence that you keep saying that – biblical missionaries – because we were just about to read the Bible together. Would you like to join us?

**Pearl:** Reading the Bible – fabulous!

**Spencer:** Just the sort of thing a biblical missionary would do.

**Pearl:** I'm even going to take notes.

**Interviewer:** Great! We're going to read from Luke chapter 10. If you are sitting on this side, join in with the words that begin with *S*, and over on this side join in with the words beginning with *P*. *S* to make it special for Spencer and *P* to make it personal for Pearl.

*(read text together in that way)*

Great reading, well done.

**Pearl:** Um, Spencer, could I have a word?

*Pearl and Spencer whisper and consult Pearl's note book, and the Bible.*

**Interviewer:** What's going on? Spencer? Pearl?

**Spencer:** Um, change of plan. Just having a quick last minute check of the Bible, we noticed a few aspects of our planning that we need to...to...to...to modify.

- Pearl:** It seems that we missed a few strategy details in being biblical.
- Interviewer:** Like what?
- Spencer:** Ah, well, they went out two by two, together. Not flying solo.
- Interviewer:** So you'll be doing that? Keeping each other encouraged and accountable?
- Pearl:** Yes. And it says here, stay in the homes, eat and drink with people. That's like making ourselves dependent on them.
- Spencer:** Being part of the neighbourhood.
- Pearl:** And all this stuff, we don't need it.
- Spencer:** You know, I think we're meant to rely on what we find there.
- Pearl:** Maybe even be...friends...with people.
- Interviewer:** That seems to be what was in this Bible reading. So a change of strategy?
- Pearl:** I'm not sure what to do – we could stay home and do all of those things in our own neighbourhood. We don't need to go to South America for that.
- Interviewer:** I think you're right. We can be that kind of missionary everywhere. In any neighbourhood, at any age. But do still go to South America – or Africa, Spencer - God needs goodnews neighbours everywhere in the world.
- Spencer:** And you'll keep being goodnews neighbours here.
- Interviewer:** Absolutely. So does that kind of wrap it up, Pearl? Spencer?
- Pearl:** I have a question. Do we get to keep wearing the sandals?
- Interviewer:** What do we think girls and boys? Do the sandals stay or go? Let's read the Bible one more time. – and let's swap sides...this side is P and this side is S.

*(Read text) At the mention of sandals, Pearl and Spencer take off their sandals and put them in the case, which they leave behind.*

*At the end of the reading: Pearl and Spencer leave as they came, but this time singing 'May our homes be filled with dancing'.*

Girls and boys, there are real missionaries who have been sent from our church to neighbourhoods around the world. And they are doing just what we've been reading. They share their lives as neighbours with others, make friends and settle in communities. They go for dinner, they share peace where they are welcomed. And they live and tell the story of Jesus. We are going to pray for them now. *(Finish with prayer)*