



Jesus Among Us

When Jesus Sends You

October 11, 2026

Leader's Guide Text: Luke 9:1-6

The goal of this discussion is to move people from **spectatorship to participation**.

The sermon emphasizes a simple progression in Luke 9:

Jesus called them. - Jesus equipped them. - Jesus sent them. - Jesus instructed them. - And they went.

Help your group see that following Jesus involves both **being with Christ** and **being sent by Christ**. Avoid allowing the discussion to remain theoretical. Continually help participants identify people, fears, hurts and opportunities that make the passage personal.

OPENING | 5–10 MINUTES

Begin with a simple question:

“When you hear the phrase ‘God is sending you,’ what immediately comes to mind?”

Some may think of missionaries, pastors or overseas ministry. Use that conversation to emphasize:

Being sent doesn't necessarily mean going somewhere far away. **It often means seeing differently the place where God has already put you.**

Read **Luke 9:1–6** together. Then briefly identify the progression:

He called them. - He gave them. - He sent them. - He said to them. - They went.

QUESTIONS 1–2 | CALLED AND EQUIPPED

Key Truth: Our doing for Jesus must flow from our being with Jesus.

Acts 4:13 provides a powerful picture of Peter and John. What distinguished these “uneducated, common men” was that people recognized **they had been with Jesus**.

Encourage honesty here.

A person can be extremely active in church while spiritually running on empty. The goal isn't to create guilt over devotional habits but to remind the group that **ministry is the overflow of relationship with Christ**.

When discussing feeling inadequate, emphasize:

Jesus doesn't necessarily remove our weakness before using us. Sometimes our awareness of weakness becomes the very thing that keeps us dependent upon Him.

Leader follow-up:

“Where might God actually be asking you to trust Him rather than waiting until you feel more capable?”

QUESTIONS 3–5 | SENT, DEPENDENT AND CONTENT

Key Truth: Your mission field often begins exactly where God has already placed you.

Push the group toward specificity.

Instead of: “I need to reach people at work.”

Encourage: “There's a man named _____ who works beside me, and I'm going to intentionally invite him to lunch.”

Specificity turns good intentions into potential obedience.

When discussing dependence, recognize that planning and preparation are good things. The problem comes when **our need to know everything becomes an excuse for doing nothing**.

Likewise, contentment doesn't mean we can never pursue a new opportunity or change our circumstances.

Jesus' instruction in this passage emphasizes receiving God's provision and remaining focused on the mission rather than continually seeking something better.

Ask: "Could comparison be distracting you from an assignment God has already given you?"

QUESTION 6 | THE DUST WE CARRY

Allow extra time here.

Key Truth:

Yesterday's rejection should not determine tomorrow's obedience.

Jesus' command to shake the dust from their feet had a specific meaning as a testimony against those who rejected the Kingdom message. But the image provides a powerful application:

Don't carry the dust of one village into the next.

Some people in your group may immediately know what their "dust" is.

For others, it may take time.

It could be:

A painful church experience - Rejection after sharing their faith - Betrayal - Criticism - Ministry failure - Disappointment with someone they trusted - An opportunity that didn't work out - A relationship that ended painfully

Be careful not to communicate that "shaking off the dust" means minimizing legitimate pain, refusing appropriate grieving, or avoiding necessary reconciliation.

The question is:

Has yesterday's pain been given permission to control tomorrow's obedience?

A particularly helpful follow-up is:

"Is the dust still on your feet because something happened to you, or because you've made what happened part of how you now see every new opportunity?"

Then ask: **"What would taking one healthy step forward look like?"**

You don't need to force everyone to share. This question may touch tender areas.

QUESTION 7 | AND THEY WENT

Key Truth: Eventually faith requires a response.

The disciples didn't have everything figured out. They went. Bring the discussion toward action.

Ask each willing person to identify **one concrete step of obedience** for the coming week.

It might be:

Have the conversation. - Make the phone call. - Extend the invitation. - Join the ministry. - Encourage someone. - Share what Jesus has done. - Return to something fear caused them to abandon.

Then remind the group:

Our confidence isn't ultimately in our ability to go. Our confidence is in the authority of the One who sends us.

CLOSING CHALLENGE & PRAYER

End by returning to the central question:

WHERE IS JESUS SENDING ME?

Give the group a quiet moment to consider:

Who is my person? - Where is my mission field? - What am I afraid of? - What dust am I still carrying? What is my next step?

Then pray specifically that God would make your group people who have clearly **been with Jesus** and are willing to **go for Jesus**.

Pray for courage where there is fear. Dependence where there is uncertainty. Contentment where there is comparison. Healing and freedom where there is lingering rejection and obedience where Jesus has already made the next step clear.

Close with the simple prayer: "Jesus, wherever You have placed us, use us. Wherever You send us, give us the faith to go."