

## Time Audit Chronicles: Sending Out the Twelve (Luke 9:1-6)

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### Prologue: Empowered to Preach and Heal

The Presswood family was gathered in their living room, the warm glow of the evening light casting a peaceful ambiance over the room. Ariel had just finished reading **Luke 9:1-6**, where Jesus **empowered His disciples** to go out and preach the **Kingdom of God**, healing the sick and casting out demons. The disciples, once learners, were now being sent out as messengers and healers. Ariel sat in thoughtful silence, absorbing the significance of this moment in Jesus' ministry. Alice, still holding Mr. Fluffernutter, was pretending to be a healer, making her stuffed animals "better" with just a touch.

"Daddy," Ariel began, her voice filled with curiosity, "Why did Jesus send the disciples out to preach and heal? Weren't they still learning from Him? Didn't they need more time?"

Ryan smiled, understanding Ariel's thoughts. "That's a great question, Ariel. Even though the disciples were still learning from Jesus, He knew that they were ready for the next step in their journey. Jesus didn't wait until they were perfect; He sent them out to **experience** His power for themselves and to participate in the **mission** of the Kingdom. Jesus was teaching them that they were not just followers—**they were part of the mission**. They needed to practice what they had learned, and He was giving them the authority to do it."

Ariel thought about this. "So, Jesus was giving them the opportunity to **use** their faith and the power He had shown them in order to bring healing and spread God's message."

"Exactly," Ryan said. "He empowered them to go and do what He had been doing—healing the sick, casting out demons, and preaching the **good news** of the Kingdom. It was a way of preparing them for the larger mission ahead, when they would carry on Jesus' work after His departure."

Ariel smiled, eager to understand more. "So, it wasn't just about learning—Jesus wanted them to **act** on their faith and **share** the Kingdom with others."

"Yes," Ryan said. "And that's exactly what they did. Let's use the **Time Audit Machine** to go back and witness this moment when Jesus empowered the Twelve to begin their **mission**."

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### The Journey Begins: Jesus' Instructions to the Twelve (Luke 9:1-2)

The Time Audit Machine hummed, and with a flash of light, the family found themselves standing on the edge of a **mountain**, looking out over a **village** in Galilee. Jesus was speaking to the Twelve, giving them **specific instructions** for their mission.

"This is the moment when Jesus is giving the disciples **authority** and sending them out," Ryan said. "He tells them to **proclaim the Kingdom of God** and to heal the sick, giving them the power to cast out demons. He's essentially preparing them for the work they will continue after He's gone."

Ariel looked around, feeling the weight of the moment. “So, Jesus was giving them the same authority He had been using all along—the power to heal, cast out demons, and preach the Kingdom.”

“Yes,” Ryan said. “Jesus knew they were ready, and this was part of the training process. They weren’t going to do it perfectly, but He trusted them to step out and act in faith, just like He had.”

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### **The Disciples’ Empowerment: Authority Over Evil and Sickness (*Luke 9:1*)**

Jesus called the Twelve together and gave them **power** and **authority** over all demons and to heal the sick. The disciples had seen Jesus perform these miracles themselves, but now He was giving them the **authority** to do it too.

**“Then He called His twelve disciples together, and gave them power and authority over all devils, and to cure diseases.”** (Luke 9:1)

Ariel smiled. “So, Jesus was not only giving them permission to do the work—they were being **empowered** with the very authority He had.”

“Yes,” Ryan said. “This is a pivotal moment in the disciples’ journey. They were no longer just spectators; they were participants in the **Kingdom work**. Jesus gave them **everything they needed**—His power, His authority, and His mission.”

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### **The Mission: Preaching the Kingdom and Healing the Sick (*Luke 9:2*)**

Jesus then sent them out to **proclaim** the Kingdom of God and to **heal the sick**. Their mission wasn’t just about **words**; it was about **action**—demonstrating God’s love and power by healing the sick and casting out demons as a sign of the coming Kingdom.

**“And He sent them to preach the Kingdom of God, and to heal the sick.”** (Luke 9:2)

Ariel looked thoughtful. “Jesus sent them out to **preach** the Kingdom, but He also sent them to **heal**. So, it wasn’t just about sharing words—it was about showing God’s power through actions, too.”

“Exactly,” Ryan said. “Jesus’ message wasn’t just about **talking** about the Kingdom—it was about **demonstrating** the power of the Kingdom in real, tangible ways. Healing, casting out demons, and helping people were all signs of the Kingdom of God breaking into the world.”

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### **Instructions for the Journey: Faith and Trust in God’s Provision (*Luke 9:3-5*)**

Next, Jesus gave the disciples some practical instructions on how to travel for their mission. They were to take nothing with them—no staff, no bag, no money. They were to **trust** that God would provide for them along the way.

**“And He said unto them, Take nothing for your journey, neither staves, nor scrip, neither bread, neither money; neither have two coats apiece.”** (Luke 9:3)

Ariel looked up at Ryan. “Jesus told them to travel without anything? Why would He do that?”

“Great question,” Ryan said. “By telling them not to bring anything with them, Jesus was teaching them to **depend completely on God** for provision. He wanted them to step out in faith, knowing that God would provide for their needs as they went. It was a lesson in trusting God, not just in the message they were preaching, but also in **everyday needs**.”

Ariel thought about it. “So, they didn’t have to worry about anything because God would provide what they needed?”

“Yes,” Ryan said. “Jesus was showing them that faith isn’t just about **words**—it’s about trusting God in **action**. He wanted them to learn to **rely on God** fully and to trust that He would supply everything they needed to do the work He called them to.”

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### **Welcoming the Disciples: Hospitality and Sharing the Message (Luke 9:4-5)**

Jesus also instructed the disciples to stay in the homes of those who welcomed them, and to leave any town that rejected their message. This emphasized the importance of **hospitality** and **receptivity** to the Kingdom message.

**“And whatsoever house ye enter into, there abide, and thence depart.”** (Luke 9:4)

Ariel was intrigued. “So, the disciples were supposed to stay where people welcomed them and move on if they weren’t accepted?”

“Yes,” Ryan said. “Jesus was teaching them that the Kingdom of God would not be accepted by everyone. Some would welcome them and their message, while others would reject it. The disciples’ job was to stay faithful to the message and trust God for the results, even if it meant moving on when a town rejected them.”

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### **The Disciples Go Out: Preaching and Healing (Luke 9:6)**

When the disciples received their instructions from Jesus, they went out, preaching the message of the Kingdom and healing the sick wherever they went.

**“And they departed, and went through the towns, preaching the gospel, and healing every where.”** (Luke 9:6)

Ariel smiled, imagining the scene. “The disciples didn’t wait—they went out and started doing exactly what Jesus had been doing. They were healing the sick and preaching about God’s Kingdom.”

“Yes,” Ryan said. “The disciples were now **messengers** of the Kingdom. They had learned from Jesus, and now they were empowered to go out and continue His work. They were part of something bigger than themselves—part of the mission of the Kingdom of God.”

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## Reflection: Stepping Out in Faith to Do God's Work

Back in the garage, the Time Audit Machine powered down, and the family sat quietly, reflecting on what they had just witnessed. Ariel turned to her father, deep in thought. Alice, still holding Mr. Fluffernutter, was pretending to heal her toys and share the message of the Kingdom with her stuffed animals.

“Jesus didn’t wait for the disciples to be perfect,” Ariel said softly. “He sent them out even though they were still learning. He gave them the power to do what He was doing—heal and preach the Kingdom.”

“Yes,” Ryan said. “Jesus knew that the disciples weren’t perfect, but He trusted them to step out in faith. He wanted them to experience the power of God’s Kingdom firsthand and to learn to rely on Him completely.

And that’s the same for us. We might not have it all figured out, but when we step out in faith and obedience, God works through us.”

Ariel smiled. “So, faith isn’t just about believing—it’s about **acting** on that belief and doing the work God calls us to do.”

“That’s exactly right,” Ryan said. “Faith requires action. Jesus calls us to go and do, to preach the good news, to serve others, and to trust that God will provide everything we need to fulfill His mission.”

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## Takeaway: Empowered to Do God's Work

In Luke 9:1-6, Jesus empowers His disciples to go out and proclaim the **Kingdom of God** while healing the sick and casting out demons. This moment marks a transition where the disciples move from being learners to active participants in God’s mission. Jesus teaches them to **rely on God** for provision and to trust in the **power of faith** to bring about healing and transformation. Their obedience and trust in Jesus’ authority demonstrate that faith is not just about hearing the message—it’s about living it out through **action**. By stepping out in faith, we too can participate in God’s work, knowing that He will equip us and provide everything we need.