



Sermon Small Group Discussion Questions
March 27, 2011



Ingredients Necessary for Successful Ministry

Preacher: Jeff Gilmore
Luke 9:1-17

BIG IDEA

We feed the multitudes by taking responsibility, practicing humility, committing to God's purposes, relying on Jesus, and experiencing God's blessings.



FOR STARTERS

1. Open your time in prayer. Have someone pull out the bulletin notes and summarize the main points of the message. If you did listen to the message, share one thought that was meaningful to you. Also make sure you read through the passage—**Luke 9:1-17**. If you are doing a personal study, jot down your thoughts below—write out the main points and one thing that was meaningful to you.



DIG INTO THE BIBLE

2. Read through the passage and write out below the observations you have. Try to answer the who, what, when, where, and why of the passage. Write out any observations on the context—what is going on? What are the key words and ideas? What is the tone? What do we learn about Jesus? What do we learn about ourselves as we seek to follow Jesus?



STUDY AND APPLY

3. Jeff said that it is not enough just to sit and marvel at the work of God, but we must take responsibility to join Him in His great work. Study the following verses and write out or discuss what you learn about this topic. **Matthew 28:17-20; Philipians 2:12-16; Colossians 1:28-29 .**

4. God often brings us to great humility as we look at the tasks He is calling us to do that seem overwhelming. Jesus often, as in the case of the disciples in Luke, brings us to the point of desperation—when we recognize we cannot love and serve God on our own strength. Read the following verses and write out or discuss with your group what you learn about this theme.
2 Corinthians 3:4-6; John 15:5-8,16; Isaiah 40:28-31.

5. Jesus needed to intervene in this story in Luke in miraculous ways in order for the people to be fed. Take a look at the Elijah and the Prophets of Baal story in the Old Testament. What did God do that was amazing in this story? What do we learn about God here. How does this story show Elijah's dependence on God? How can you do this in your life? **1 Kings 18:20-40.**

Next steps: Jeff asked the question, “Have you put yourself in a position demanding the necessity of God’s miraculous intervention? What can you do and pray for in order for this to happen in your life?” Also, what in your life are you keeping for yourself and not committing to Jesus? In light of this, how can you serve Him in greater ways this week? Jot down your thoughts and discuss them.