



Week Two: Sent – Study Guide

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February 15, 2014

Each of us, every day we have breath, is being sent in some direction. Sometimes it is our emotions, past experiences, our own abilities, or simply just "me" that dictate the direction we go each day, or in our life in general. In last week's study, we established that God is in control and that He is more concerned about us than about our circumstances. In this week's guide, we will talk about how we, as obedient Jesus followers, can be fearlessly sent by Him in a direction that may surprise us, and ultimately help others see Him and bring Him glory.

Where Am I Today?

- 1) Life is full of choices. We like to feel that we can control the outcome, and that we have gone in the right direction. Emotions like frustration or worry can surface when we find ourselves empty-handed and maybe even defeated, ready to give up. Describe a time when God was asking you to simply obey when He lead you in a direction that didn't make sense to you.

Into the Bible

- 2) Jesus was teaching a crowd of people when He saw an opportunity to really pour into a fisherman named Simon. Read **Luke 5:1-5**. How did Simon respond to Jesus after he was told to go and cast his nets out again?

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- 3) No matter how, or how many times, we have attempted to overcome a situation on our own, Jesus wants to send us in a better direction. There is power in obeying Jesus when He says to do it His way. Often, Jesus sends us in a direction that goes against conventional wisdom. Read **Luke 5:6-11**. What happened when Simon obeyed and trusted Jesus in this seemingly impossible situation? How did Jesus' miracle enable others to be a part of what had just happened, and why is this important?
- 4) Often, we try to make sense of the way God works and find ourselves reducing God to our level. Human understanding places God in a box that reduces Him to someone who revolves around us, rather than the other way around. Read **Isaiah 55:8-9**. What does Isaiah tell us about the possibility of our being able to understand God's thought process?

How Does This Apply?

- 5) There are seasons in life where you may not have clear direction, or you may feel a little frustrated by what God is asking you to do. God does not want you to give up, but He wants you to give in to His leading, no matter how senseless it may feel at the time. Take a second and think about your current circumstances. Where have you possibly told God, "I'm giving up"?

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- 6) God uses ordinary people's obedience to display His extraordinary power. Simply obeying is the key, even when we feel like we have already obeyed. Sometimes it is us saying, "Ok God, I'll give it a go ONE last time, YOUR way." Think about the answer you gave to the previous question. What would the win look like if you allowed God to direct you through a situation rather than giving up?

- 7) God doesn't look at any of us and consider our situation a lost cause. Through our skepticism and doubt, He loves us. It is time to acknowledge that He wants to send us in a direction that will ultimately give Him glory and show others who He is. How might this look when it is a marriage that is crumbling, a rocky financial future, or even a family relationship that needs mending?

Continue Learning on Your Own

- 8) Jesus does the miraculous in you, which enables you to be sent and reach others. Read **Luke 5:12-15**. Here we see that Jesus didn't just heal a man with leprosy without giving him further instructions. So too it is with us. Jesus has a particular direction He wants us to go after we experience Him. Often it is to a place to help us reconcile our relationships and introduce Him to those who have not yet met Him. How can getting into His presence and experiencing His power encourage us to share Jesus with others?