Space for God Acceptance And Rejection



PREPARATION

• In the name of the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit • May God's peace be on this place. The Kingdom of God is near us now. • **Amen** •

WORSHIP

How beautiful on the mountains are the feet of the messenger who brings good news,

the good news of peace and salvation, the news that the God of Israel reigns! Isaiah 52:7

CONFESSION

Don't be misled-you cannot mock the justice of God. You will always harvest what you plant. Those who live only to satisfy their own sinful nature will harvest decay and death from that sinful nature.

But those who live to please the Spirit will harvest everlasting life from the Spirit.

Galatians 6:7-8

MEDITATION - Luke 10:1-11, 16-20*

The Lord now chose seventy-two other disciples and sent them ahead in pairs to all the towns and places he planned to visit. These were his instructions to them: "The harvest is great, but the workers are few. So pray to the Lord who is in charge of the harvest; ask him to send more workers into his fields. Now go, and remember that I am sending you out as lambs among wolves. Don't take any money with you, nor a traveler's bag, nor an extra pair of sandals. And don't stop to greet anyone on the road.

"Whenever you enter someone's home, first say, 'May God's peace be on this house.' If those who live there are peaceful, the blessing will stand; if they are not, the blessing will return to you. Don't move around from home to home. Stay in one place, eating and drinking what they provide. Don't hesitate to accept hospitality, because those who work deserve their pay.

If you enter a town and it welcomes you, eat whatever is set before you. Heal the

sick, and tell them, 'The Kingdom of God is near you now.' But if a town refuses to welcome you, go out into its streets and say, 'We wipe even the dust of your town from our feet to show that we have abandoned you to your fate. And know this-the Kingdom of God is near!'

 IN SOLITUDE AND/OR COMMUNITY

 Read
 Slowly, several times.

 Reflect
 What does the text say?

 Respond
 How does it relate to my life?

 Rest
 I welcome God's healing and renewal

Then he said to the disciples, "Anyone who accepts your message is also accepting me. And anyone who rejects you is rejecting me. And anyone who rejects me is rejecting God, who sent me."

When the seventy-two disciples returned, they joyfully reported to him, "Lord, even the demons obey us when we use your name!"

"Yes," he told them, "I saw Satan fall from heaven like lightning! Look, I have given you authority over all the power of the enemy, and you can walk among snakes and scorpions and crush them. Nothing will injure you. But don't rejoice because evil spirits obey you; rejoice because your names are registered in heaven."

ANCHORING PRAYER

Lord, here I am, send me!

REVIEW OF THE HEART

What sense of urgency do I have in sharing my faith?

When was I rejected because of my faith?

WISDOM

How you have fallen from heaven, morning star, son of the dawn! You have been cast down to the earth, you who once laid low the nations! Isaiah 14:12

Turn away from evil and do good. Search for peace, and work to maintain it. Psalm 34:14

Those who plant in tears will harvest with shouts of joy. Psalm 126:5

Two people are better off than one, for they can help each other succeed. Ecclesiastes 4:9

TESTIMONY What is God saying to me?

INTERCESSION Prayers for the Church, for others, and for me.

BENEDICTION

Send out your light and your truth; let them guide me. Let them lead me to your holy mountain, to the place where you live. • Amen • Psalm 43:3

SPACE FOR GOD DAILY Be still and quiet before God. Seek the Holy Spirit's filling and guidance. Speak, act, and serve from a listening heart.

PermaneSED (Abide) Kurt D. Peters. **Bold** portions to be read in unison. *Lectionary, Year C Scripture Quotations, unless otherwise indicated, are taken from the Holy Bible, New Living Translation, copyright © 1996, 2004, 2007 by Tyndale House Foundation.