

“We Know the Way, So Let’s Not Get Lost”

Luke 5:12-26

(A complimentary transcript of the sermon is available at the Information Desk in the Lobby)

THEME: Following in Christ’s footsteps and staying the course.

Luke chapter five begins with a description of the calling of Jesus’ first disciples. Then Luke recounts some early incidents that show us what it means to live as Christ’s followers in this world.

When Christ appeared to his disciples after his resurrection he said, “As the Father has sent me, I am sending you.” (John 20:21) As a church we are a community of Christ’s followers, sent into the world by our Lord. Let us be certain that we follow in his footsteps and not get lost.

Our text today gives us some important **guidelines** for dealing with people Christ’s way.

I. RESPOND TO URGENT NEEDS (5:12-16)

II. FOCUS ON ESSENTIAL NEEDS (5:17-26)

SMALL GROUP QUESTIONS

April 29, 2007

OPENER:

1. Share an interesting—or embarrassing—incident about failing to follow directions and getting lost.

2. Read John 13:5, 1 Corinthians 11:1, and 1 Peter 2:21. What do these verses emphasize for all Christ’s followers?

I. RESPOND TO URGENT NEEDS (5:12-16)

3. What are some common excuses for failing to show compassion to people in need?

4. Leprous people were treated as social outcasts in biblical times. What kinds of people are often considered social outcasts today?

5. Jesus reached out and touched the leprous man. What do you think this means for those who follow in Christ’s footsteps today?

II. FOCUS ON ESSENTIAL NEEDS (5:17-26)

6. Jesus’ words to the paralytic offended some religious leaders. How do Christ’s faithful followers sometimes offend proud religious people today?

7. Read verse 24. What does this teach us about all our ministries as Christ’s followers?

8. How should the lessons from today’s Bible text affect our church at this time in our history?