



# Everyday FAITH Family Page

## New Testament 3

### Law/Gospel

I sin when I see my calling, or vocation, as unrelated to my Lord and my faith. **God, in His mercy, uses all vocations to meet the needs of the world. In His Son, Jesus, He provides for my spiritual needs through pastors, Christian parents, and others, and He equips me to share His love with others.**

### Bible Words

For God so loved the world, that He gave His only Son, that whoever believes in Him should not perish but have eternal life. John 3:16

### Fun Facts

Manuscript copies of the Greek Gospel of Luke list different numbers in this report. Some translations count seventy-two disciples, as the ESV does; others say seventy. According to Martin H. Franzmann, "The number 70 (or 72) is the traditional number of the non-Jewish peoples in the world. . . . The choice of this number indicates the ultimate universality of Jesus' saving mission."

*Concordia Self-Study Commentary: New Testament, p. 68*

## Jesus Sends the Seventy-Two

Luke 10:1-24

**D**o you sometimes feel confused by the words *disciples* and *apostles*? Which are we? Let's try to clarify.

A *disciple* is a follower. In the Bible, this word describes people who follow Jesus. Those who believed in Jesus in the Early Church and Christians throughout the ages, including us, are disciples of Jesus through God's gift of faith, which comes through His Word and Sacraments.

*Apostle* means "messenger" or "sent one." The Bible uses this term most often to refer to the twelve disciples Jesus selected during His early ministry, "whom He also named apostles" (Mark 3:14).

Jesus sent seventy-two disciples on a mission in Luke 10. He also sent the twelve apostles on a mission in Matthew 10. All are disciples; only some are apostles.

The seventy-two returned a good report for Jesus, who rejoiced with them. He said, "The harvest is plentiful, but the laborers are few. Therefore pray earnestly to the Lord of the harvest to send out laborers into His harvest" (Luke 10:2).

We thank God for parents who teach their children about Jesus. We thank Him for pastors, teachers, musicians, and other leaders who work diligently to preach and teach God's Word faithfully and bring in the harvest. All of Jesus' disciples are part of this effort. May the Lord give you much joy in your work and service to Him!

### Song

Today Your mercy calls us / To wash away our sin.  
However great our trespass, / Whatever we have been,  
However long from mercy / Our hearts have turned away,  
Your precious blood can wash us / And makes us clean today.

*"Today Your Mercy Calls Us," Lutheran Service Book 915, stanza 1*

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