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Topic
“The Helps and Hindrances to the Evangelistic Endeavor”

BIBLE STUDY

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“The Helps and Hindrances to the Evangelistic Endeavor”

Scripture Lesson: Luke 9:46-62

Key Verses: Luke 9:56

Proposition: Our attitudes and dispositions will help or hinder the evangelistic endeavor.

I. Our approach to greatness will help or hinder the evangelistic endeavor. (Luke 9:46-48)

- A. Our selfish ambition is a hindrance to the evangelistic endeavor. (Luke 9:46-47)
 - 1. Our selfish ambition often leads us to seek positions of influence or places of honor. (Mk. 10:35-40)
 - 2. Our selfish ambition often results in disharmony and disputes. (Mk. 10:41)
 - 3. Our selfish ambition and self-centered thoughts are always perceived by the Lord. (Luke 9:47)
- B. Our servant leadership is a help to the evangelistic endeavor. (Luke 9:47-48)
 - 1. Jesus used a child to teach us the right approach to greatness. (Luke 9:48)
 - 2. Jesus used this dispute to teach us that servant leadership is the way to true greatness. (Mk. 10:42-45)
 - a. We must lead God’s people by precept and example not by domination or manipulation.
 - b. We must lead God’s people as a humble servant.
 - c. We must lead God’s people as a suffering servant.
 - d. We must lead God’s people as a sacrificial servant.

II. Our attitude toward other saints will help or hinder the evangelistic endeavor. (Luke 9:49-50)

- A. Our divisive sectarianism is a hindrance to the evangelistic endeavor. (Luke 9:49-50)
 - 1. We often think that we are justified in discrediting or attacking those who are not in our fellowship.
 - 2. We often fail to realize that when we attack other Christians, we are fighting ourselves.
- B. Our Christian unity is a help to the evangelistic endeavor. (Luke 9:50)
 - 1. Although we may belong to different fellowships, all Christians are on the same side. (Luke 9:50)
 - 2. When we fight each other, it discredits our message about Christ. (John 17:20-23)
 - 3. When we walk in unity, it gives credibility to our message about Christ. (John 17:20-23)

III. Our ability to handle rejection will help or hinder the evangelistic endeavor. (Luke 9:51-56)

- A. Our mean-spiritedness is a hindrance to the evangelistic endeavor. (Luke 9:51-55)
 - 1. Sometimes people reject the good news that we bring to them. (Luke 9:51-53)
 - 2. Sometimes we respond to the rejection in a mean-spirited manner. (Luke 9:54)
 - 3. Sometimes we are unaware of the spirit that is operating in us. (Luke 9:55)
- B. Our Christian compassion is a help to the evangelistic endeavor. (Luke 9:56)
 - 1. We must always remember that Christ came to save lives, not to destroy them.
 - 2. We must always remember that we are to be redemptive, not punitive as we share the gospel.
 - 3. We must always remember that today’s “no” may become tomorrow’s “yes.”

IV. Our ability to put Christ first will help or hinder the evangelistic endeavor. (Luke 9:57-62)

A. Half-hearted devotion is a hindrance to the evangelistic endeavor. (Luke 9:57-62)

1. Our concern for convenience can keep us from devoting ourselves to Christ's gospel. (Luke 9:57-58)
2. Our material possessions can keep us from devoting ourselves to Christ's gospel. (Luke 9:59-60)
3. Our family and friends can keep us from devoting ourselves to Christ's gospel. (Luke 9:61-62)

B. Total abandonment is a help to the evangelistic endeavor. (Luke 14:25-33)

1. We must put Christ and His gospel before family, friends, and even ourselves. (Luke 14:25-26)
2. We must put Christ and His gospel before any convenience or privileges. (Luke 14:27)
3. We must put Christ and His gospel before all our material possessions. (Luke 14:33)