

Sermons at All Saints Church, Luxembourg

Preached by Rev Geoff Read on Sunday 6th July 2025

Bible passage: Luke 10:1-11

What was your journey that brings you here this morning?’

I don’t mean whether it was public transport or car

But

- what were the key moments on your journey of faith
- and who played an important role?

For me a key moment and a key person was going to University back in 1982

I ended up sharing a room with a man called Hugh who called himself a committed Christian. He seemed to have a quality about his life that I found attractively different and it started me asking questions

That led to me hearing about Jesus in a way I had never before, despite having sung a church choir for years

It also led me to a decision to become a follower of Jesus and to meet with Him in a living way

There have been other people and moments too

But how about you?

Sometimes drawing a road map and writing people and moments with dates is really helpful to trace our faith journey and where our paths have crossed with people or incidents and Jesus has used them to touch us with His good news

Think for a moment about your faith journey

- Who are those people
- What were those moments?
- How do you feel about them?

And the amazing thing is this. He doesn’t just use other people

He also uses us

We can be the means by which Jesus touches people with His good news

That’s what our Bible passage is about

in this case pairs of people sent by Jesus looking for what he calls people of peace, people open to the good news about Him

Not those who are resistant, but those who are open to hear and experience that “the Kingdom of God has come near you”

That word Kingdom is about allowing God’s just, gentle, life-giving values and power to shape our lives rather than other ways that we have picked up or chosen

When we live this Kingdom way and others see or experience it, it's good news for people who are open, who desire a better way than they are trying out at present

That's what happened for me when I met Hugh, lived closely alongside him

There is a word for this sharing of good news

It's called evangelism

It a word that sadly people have become suspicious of

But it simply means sharing good news

If you think about your faith journey map, those significant people and moments are just that: people and moments through which good news touched your life

either to deepen what is already good

or to challenge and make transformation possible

Its to bring the hope that we sang about earlier

Sometimes its about transforming the situation itself

other times its about transforming how we face something – illness, failure, fear

Now knowing we are not alone, but that Jesus walks with us through it

When you think of those moments when good news touched your life, how did you feel?

When you think about being someone through whom Jesus might touch someone's life with good news, how do you feel?

Let me guess: a bit embarrassed, feeling a bit helpless, or fearful: who am I to bring good news?

When Jesus described how his first dps might feel he said they might even feel like lambs among wolves

But don't worry, He says: don't even take stuff you think you might need

No, simply look for the people of peace, those whose eyes light up, who are open to hear

This is good news for us who see suffering and need, who long to see some good news touch people's lives but who feel like hesitant, fearful

The good news is that its Jesus who does the sending, its Jesus who brings the change

Our part is simply to join in with what He is already doing in that person's life, in that moment

Remember He sent them to the places he was about to go

and he assured them: Whoever listens to you, listens to me

So how do we even begin to be good news bringers?

All of this starts in loving prayer for others

During *Thy Kingdom* come we were each encouraged to pray for up to five people we know
and who we would love to see Jesus' good news touching their lives

Who are those people – it could even be just one

Please keep praying for them

and please keep looking for those moments when your life interacts with theirs in a good news
moment

When Jesus takes you and uses you to bring that good news to them!

It could be in a simple gesture of generosity, an invitation to coffee

Time spent listening well to them

Saying “When I feel like that, I pray and I would be happy pray for you, now I know your need. Is
that OK?” Very few people will reply: No

We are going to be talking about this on our Sanctuary Day

Learning how to pray in this way, joining in with what Jesus is already doing in the people of peace in
our lives!

Come along and find out more!