INTRODUCTION

THE DEMON POSSESSED MAN:

Luke 8:26, 36-39 Jesus and His disciples sailed to the country of the Gerasenes opposite of Galilee. When they stepped out of the boat, Jesus encountered a man possessed with demons who lived among the tombs (graveyard). Some people had seen Jesus send the demons out of the man into a herd of pigs, and told other people how Jesus had healed the man. However, all the people of the Gerasene region asked Jesus to leave because they were so afraid. So, Jesus got into the boat and left. The man that was healed wanted to go with Jesus, but Jesus sent him away telling him, ‘Go back home. Tell people how much God has done on your behalf.’ So, the man did as Jesus instructed, going all over the town telling others how much Jesus had done on his behalf.

THE DEAD GIRL RESURRECTED & RESTORATION OF A SICK WOMAN:

Luke 8:40-56 Jesus and His disciples returned back to the other side of the lake and the crowds received Jesus with open arms. Jairus, a ruler of the synagogue comes with a request for Jesus as he falls at His feet, desiring Him to come to his house to heal his 12yr old dying daughter.

While Jesus was on His way to Jairus’ house, there was a crowd of people all round him. And a woman in the crowd who had been bleeding for 12 years came up behind Jesus and touched the hem of His garment. No physician had been able to cure her, but immediately as she touched Jesus, the discharge of blood stopped. He asked “Who touched me? for I perceive power had gone from Me.” The woman came trembling before Jesus after everyone had denied touching Him, and declared why she had touched Jesus, and how she was healed immediately. Jesus called her “Daughter” and said “be of good comfort thy faith hath made thee whole: go in peace.”

While Jesus was speaking to the woman, one from Jairus’ house came to tell Jairus that his daughter had died (the one Jesus was on His way to see before the interruption), and not to trouble the Master. As Jesus hears this, He says “Fear not: believe only, and she shall be made whole.” Now, Jesus has finally gotten to Jairus’ house. He only allowed Peter, James, John, and the father and mother of the 12yr old girl to enter the house with Him. People wept outside, but Jesus said “Weep not; she is not dead, but sleepeth.” This brought scoffing and laughter from the people, for they all knew that she was dead. Jesus went in and took the girl by her hand and said “Maid arise” (Little girl get up). Her spirit came to life and she arose and ate food. She was raised from the dead. Her parents were astonished, but Jesus insisted that they tell no man of what was done.

LESSON:  I. MINISTRY STARTED  LUKE 9:1-6

9:1 Then he called his twelve disciples together, and gave them power and authority over all devils, and to cure diseases. This is a significant event, for it was the first time Jesus sent His disciples out alone.
He called all 12 disciples together. They were ordinary men having families and responsibilities.

- Their call was to come together for ministry. They have to be on one accord for they will be spending the majority of their time together.
- They were equipped with power and authority over all devils. Equipped with such power will keep the disciples on their faces before God and acknowledging total dependence upon Him.

9:2 And he sent them to preach the kingdom of God, and to heal the sick. This was the beginning of their training:

1. They were sent on the very mission as Christ.
2. They were to preach the Kingdom of God.
3. They were to heal the sick

Although the disciples are on earth, they are taught to preach the Kingdom of God, an eternal spiritual kingdom where the true living God rules as King in the hearts of mankind of all races. And as they receive His teachings in their hearts, the King’s new mission and authority on earth comes alive from God. ‘You can’t receive unless you have the desire to believe, which leads to being taught.’

9:3 And he said unto them, Take nothing for your journey, neither staves, nor scrip, neither bread, neither money; neither have two coats apiece. The disciples’ method was threefold:

1. They were not to seek success through personal appearance and materialism. Don’t take anything on this journey, no walking stick or traveling bag or food or money, and neither are they to carry two coats.

‘When you’re under the rule of someone, you must follow their rules and not your own. This might have seemed impossible to take nothing, no staff or bag or food or another coat, but this was getting them out of their comfort zone to depend upon Jesus—the One that God sent to the world. And now God is entrusting power upon them. When you haven’t done the impossible before, you haven’t done it Jesus’ way.’

9:4 And whatsoever house ye enter into, there abide, and thence depart. A place to stay was important.

2. They were to minister in the homes who were interested and hospitable families.

Jesus was showing them that hospitality was everything. Those that were hospitable would receive a spiritual blessing, and of course they would invite others. As they entered into a stranger’s home, they hoped for friendliness and kindness to shower them, so they could abide and have rest. They were to stay in that house reaching and teaching until it was time to depart (leave).

9:5 And whosoever will not receive you, when ye go out of that city, shake off the very dust from your feet for a testimony against them. However, if they weren’t friendly and kind, they were not to abide even in the city, but they were to depart out of the city, and shake the dust off their feet for they would be their testimony against them. ‘No one truly receives a gift with hardness of heart.’

3. Their departure would be a testimony against the rejecters. When the disciples leave, they were to shake the dust off their feet, meaning they are left to themselves without God; the disciples were not welcomed and God’s Word was not welcomed.

9:6 And they departed, and went through the towns, preaching the gospel, and healing every
where. Without hesitation or questions, the disciples departed and went through the towns preaching the gospel and ministering healing everywhere. They were truly evangelizing families, stressing the Kingdom of God through the ministry of Christ. Homes and communities were being helped. The early churches were definitely centered in homes of committed believers.

II. MINISTRY COMPLETED  LUKE 9:7-10

9:7 Now Herod the tetrarch heard of all that was done by him: and he was perplexed, because that it was said of some, that John was risen from the dead;— Jesus and the disciples’ phenomenal work was heard by “Herod the tetrarch.” This disturbed him. He was the one who had John the Baptist murdered (beheaded), and some were saying that Jesus was John the Baptist risen from the dead performing all these miracles.

9:8 And of some, that Elias had appeared; and of others, that one of the old prophets was risen again. Some of the people began to speculate about Jesus’ identity saying that Elias had appeared; and others, that one of the old prophets had risen again. It was so hard for people to accept Jesus for who He was. They wanted Him to be someone else.

9:9 And Herod said, John have I beheaded: but who is this, of whom I hear such things? And he desired to see him. Herod admitted that he had beheaded John the Baptist and really wondered who this was performing the miracles of whom he had heard much about, so he desired to see Jesus.

9:10 And the apostles, when they were returned, told him all that they had done. And he took them and went aside privately into a desert place belonging to the city called Bethsaida. You could imagine the excitement of the apostles when they returned from their sent journey. They couldn’t contain themselves as they told Jesus all they had done. I could feel their excitement, but Jesus had to calm them down, so, He took them aside on a private journey into a desert place belonging to the city called Bethsaida. ‘Where there’s a high, there’s a low because the enemy comes to sabotage you.’ And when that happens, you need to get alone with God.

1. As Jesus completes the teaching and training of His disciples He knew the disciples/apostles needed rest, so He took them alone privately for their understanding of their ministry. Jesus needed to discuss their witnessing tour with them. As they reported, Jesus needed to point out their strengths and weaknesses of how they went about it. They must learn to minister in the most effected way possible.

2. As Jesus completes the teaching and training of His disciples He knew the disciples/apostles needed to evaluate themselves, for their understanding of their ministry, but they needed to do it in the presence of God alone so that they could be restored both in their spirits and their bodies. Note, Jesus took them to a desert place somewhere near or toward the city of Bethsaida. It said belonging to the city called Bethsaida, which means they must have been spiritually exhausted and physically drained. The point is that there is a time for ministry, and a time for evaluating oneself and one’s ministry, and there is a time for renewing one’s spirit and body.
Jesus called His twelve disciples together, and gave them power and authority over all devils, and to cure diseases; sent them to preach the kingdom of God, and to heal the sick. This was the beginning of their training: Don’t take anything on this journey, no walking stick or traveling bag or food or money, and neither bring two coats on the journey. Whatever house they entered into, they were to abide at that house until it was time to depart. And whoever will not receive them, when they go out of that city, they are to shake off the very dust from their feet for a testimony against them. The disciples departed, and went through the towns, preaching the gospel, and healing everywhere (9:1-6).

Herod the tetrarch heard all that was done by Jesus, and he was perplexed, because it was said of some, that John the Baptist had risen from the dead. Some of the people began to speculate about Jesus’ identity saying that Elias had appeared; and others, that one of the old prophets had risen again. It was so hard for people to accept Jesus for who He was. They wanted Him to be someone else. Herod admitted that he had beheaded John the Baptist and really wondered who this was performing the miracles of whom he had heard so much about, so he desired to see Jesus. When the apostles returned, they told Jesus all that they had done. Jesus then took them aside privately into a desert place belonging to the city called Bethsaida (9:7-10).