

# Luke 10:1

Authorized King James Version (KJV)

After these things the Lord appointed other seventy also, and sent them two and two before his face into every city and place, whither he himself would come.

## Analysis

**After these things the Lord appointed other seventy also, and sent them two and two before his face into every city and place, whither he himself would come.** The Greek anedeixen (ἀνέδειξεν, "appointed") literally means "showed forth" or "publicly designated"—Jesus formally commissioned this missionary band. The number seventy (some manuscripts read seventy-two) likely corresponds to the seventy elders of Israel (Numbers 11:16) or the seventy nations in Genesis 10, symbolizing universal mission.

The phrase **two and two** (ana duo, ἀνὰ δύο) reflects Jesus' consistent practice of paired witnesses (Mark 6:7), fulfilling Deuteronomy 19:15's requirement of two witnesses for testimony. The prepositional phrase **before his face** (pro prosōpou autou, πρὸ προσώπου αὐτοῦ) indicates they were advance messengers preparing the way—like John the Baptist prepared for Jesus' first coming, these disciples prepared towns for His immediate arrival. This missionary sending prefigures the Great Commission (Matthew 28:19-20) and models apostolic witness throughout Acts.

## Historical Context

This mission occurred during Jesus' final journey to Jerusalem (Luke 9:51). Unlike the Twelve's mission to Israel alone (Matthew 10:5-6), the seventy likely included Gentile territories, foreshadowing the church's universal mission. First-century

traveling teachers commonly sent advance parties to arrange lodging and gather audiences. The paired sending provided mutual support, accountability, and credible witness in cultures where individual testimony was suspect.

## Related Passages

---

**James 2:17** — Faith and works

**Romans 1:17** — The righteous shall live by faith

**Genesis 1:1** — Creation of heavens and earth

**Psalm 19:1** — Heavens declare God's glory

## Study Questions

---

1. How does Jesus' pattern of sending disciples 'two and two' inform modern missionary strategy and church planting?
2. What does it mean that these disciples went 'before his face' to prepare the way, and how do Christians prepare the way for Christ today?
3. Why might Jesus have chosen seventy (or seventy-two) disciples for this particular mission?

## Interlinear Text

---

Μετὰ δὲ ταῦτα ἀνέδειξεν ὁ κύριος καὶ ἑτέρους  
After G1161 these things appointed G3588 the Lord also other  
G3326 G5023 G322 G2962 G2532 G2087

ἐβδομήκοντα καὶ ἀπέστειλεν αὐτὸς ἀνὰ δύο πρὸ<sup>τ</sup>  
seventy also sent he himself two and two before  
G1440 G2532 G649 G846 G303 G1417 G4253

προσώπου αὐτὸς εἰς πᾶσαν πόλιν καὶ τόπον οὐ<sup>τ</sup>  
face he himself into every city also place G3739  
G4383 G846 G1519 G3956 G4172 G2532 G5117

ἔμελλεν αὐτὸς ἔρχεσθαι  
would he himself come  
G3195 G846 G2064

## Additional Cross-References

---

**Luke 9:52** (Parallel theme): And sent messengers before his face: and they went, and entered into a village of the Samaritans, to make ready for him.

**Numbers 11:16** (References Lord): And the LORD said unto Moses, Gather unto me seventy men of the elders of Israel, whom thou knowest to be the elders of the people, and officers over them; and bring them unto the tabernacle of the congregation, that they may stand there with thee.