

Date: \_\_\_\_\_



# Shepherd's Path

## A Shepherd's Personal Devotions

Jesus Is the King Series, Lesson 40

Lesson Title: The King Sends His Men

Take Home Point: We represent the King.

### Warm-Up:

Do you know the origin of the word "represent"? It means "to present again." In the event I am unable to present my information directly, I present it to someone else, and they "re-present" to whomever I send them. I don't hold my representative responsible for the reaction of the recipient, although I want to be represented well and do not want to be misrepresented. If you think about it, we represent others and others represent us all the time in life. We have a representative form of government; we represent our employer or client; a lawyer may be our representative to the court; we represent Jesus to the world.

**Read:** Matthew 9:35-10:33

### Observation (What happened?):

Under whose authority did the disciples go out?

What were the different responses Jesus told his disciples they would receive as they represented him?

### Interpretation (What does it mean?):

Why did Jesus send out his 12 disciples to preach the message of the Kingdom?

Make a list of the things Jesus states or implies that the disciples will receive on their journey by the power of God.

### Insight:

In every nation that allows it, other countries send an ambassador to represent their interests to that host nation. Ambassadors are not there simply to enjoy the culture of a foreign land. They are not citizens of the host nation. Embassy officials are responsible to know not only the position of their nation's leaders regarding world affairs, but also understanding the values and ideals behind the position. A good ambassador values and cultivates relationships with people in the host nation and actively looks for ways to communicate effectively and influentially. Ambassadors have no power of their own, but only what is vested by the sending government. Sounds familiar, doesn't it? That's not really different from our role as representatives of God and his Kingdom. We are his ambassadors to a world that needs him.

### Application (What does it mean to me?):

In what ways did you represent the King last week? Do you think he would consider your actions and words to be a negative or positive representation?

Think about how you can prepare to represent Jesus in the coming week. Pray for his power to do so.