

# Matthew 10:1-15

March 17, 2019 – Rev. Rick Lyon

## Intro

### **A nine-year-old boy wrote a letter to NASA.**

*Dear NASA:*

*My name is Jack Davis and I'd like to apply for the planetary protection officer job. I may be nine but I think I'd be fit for the job.*

*My sister says I'm an alien. Also, I've seen almost all the space and alien movies I can see. I've seen the show Marvel Agents of Shield and hope to see the movie Men in Black. I'm great at video games. I'm young, so I can learn to think like an Alien.*

*Sincerely,*

*Jack Davis*

*Guardian of the Galaxy*

**John 4:36** - "The harvesters are paid good wages, and the fruit they harvest is people brought to eternal life."

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## **Question #1 - Who does God use to do His work?**

The first level of Jewish education was called: ***Beth Sefer***.

Beth Sefer literally means: "***House of the Book***"

- It was the equivalent of elementary education.
- Boys and girls from the age of 5 to 12 attended Beth Sefer.
- There they were taught to read, write and memorize the Torah--the first five books of the OT.

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- After completing Beth Sefer, children concluded their formal education and then entered a trade or the family business.
- However, the very best of the male students were allowed to advance.

The second level of Jewish education--*Beth Midrash*.

Beth Midrash means "*House of Study*"

- This was the equivalent of secondary education
- Boys 13-15 years-old studied the rest of the OT
- They also studied oral law and traditions
- After Beth Midrash these young men would return to a trade or their family business
- However the cream of the crop--the very best of the best would go on to become a rabbi's disciple--a *Talmid*.

**Ray Vander Laan:**

*"Talmid is the Hebrew word for disciple. The talmid willingly left home, family, and occupation to be with the rabbi because he wanted more than anything else in the world to be like the rabbi in his walk with God. As the rabbi lived and taught his understanding of the Scripture, his talmid listened to him, watched him, followed him, memorized his words, and imitated his walk with God. Eventually, the talmid became a teacher who had his own disciples who wanted to learn from him how to walk with God."*

**Acts 4:13** - Peter and John... were unschooled, *ordinary men*.

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## Question #2 - Who does God send us to?

Matthew 28:19 - "Go and make disciples of *all the nations...*"

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## Question #3 - How do we do God's work?

### **1. It takes God's power to do God's work.**

John 15 - "I am the vine, you are the branches, apart from Me you can do nothing... If you *abide in Me*, and *My words abide in you*, you will *ask* what you desire, and it shall be done for you."

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### **2. It takes teamwork to do God's work.**

Mark 6:7 - He called the twelve to Himself, and began to send them out *two by two*.

Ecclesiastes 4:9-10 - *Two are better than one*, because they have a good return for their work. If one falls down, his friend can help him back up.

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**God's way is:** No one does everything, but everyone does something.

**1 Peter 4:10** - *Each of you* should use whatever gift you've received to serve others.

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### **3. It takes clarity to do God's work.**

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### **4. It takes compassion to do God's work.**

**Psalm 34:18** - The LORD is close to the brokenhearted and saves those who are crushed in spirit.

**Psalm 147:3** - The Lord heals the brokenhearted and bandages their wounds.

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## 5. It takes faith to do God's work.

**Luke 22:35** - Jesus asked them, "When I sent you out without money bag, knapsack or sandals, did you lack anything?" "Nothing," they answered.

**Joshua 3:15-16** - As soon as the feet of the priests who were carrying the ark touched the water at the river's edge, the water from upstream stopped flowing... And the water below that point flowed on to the Dead Sea until the riverbed was dry. Then all the people crossed over.

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## 6. It takes strength to do God's work.

**Mark 6:11** - "Shake the dust off your feet as a *testimony* against them."

**2 Timothy 2:24-25** - The Lord's servant must not quarrel but must *be kind to everyone*, able to teach, *patient with difficult people*. He must *gently instruct those who oppose the truth* in the hope that God will grant them repentance leading them to a knowledge of the truth.

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