

# "After This" Reflection

**"After This"** [Luke 10:1]

Luke 9-

After we argue over who's the greatest.

Luke 9:46-48

After we claim Your Name to the exclusion of others.

Luke 9:49-50

After we want to torch the whole village—  
the WHOLE VILLAGE!

Luke 9: 51-56

After we make so many excuses.

Luke 9:57-62

*Are we still making excuses?*

## **After this...**

Failure to love

— I avoided my neighbor today.

— I saw her out of the corner of my eye and turned the other way.

After this?

— We knocked on the door only to learn that her husband had passed away six months ago.

—We didn't know.

— No one on our street knew.

After this?

— I was trimming a tree out front and felt a tap on my shoulder.

— I looked around and there was a little old lady standing there.

— She said, "I'm moving tomorrow and after 37 years in this neighborhood, I just thought someone should know."

After this?

Our self-righteousness and hostility.

Misconduct, fraud, dishonesty.

Colonialism, racist brutality.

Abuse, prejudice, hypocrisy.

The list goes on, without apology...

After this?

The havoc wrecked on Creator's creation,

climate change, ecosystem devastation.

The poverty we ignore, avoid, or *allow*.

Our greed, complacency, our pride and how—

*Can You*, after all this and more...

### **Forgive us, Lord.**

"For we know not what we do."

Luke 23:34

*Or do we?* Sometimes it's true...

We do and then we don't, when we ought to.

Teach us to be forgiven and to forgive.

To embrace all humanity that *all might live*.

### **After this...**

**Appoint us, send us** and us, implore

Luke 10:1

To go, to ask, to be, as guests and harmless lambs

Luke 10: 3,2,3

Without our agendas, scripts and plans.

Luke 10:4

To see our neighbors *after this*

Alongside humbly, vulnerably, logs removed,

Matthew 7:3,4

that we won't miss

Your Spirit at work, Your Image engraved, *Your grace bestowed*.

Your Presence ahead of us, *the seeds You've sowed*...

**After this, may we receive...**

*The Word as flesh and blood in our neighborhood.*

John 1:14 (MSG)

Sacred ground where You have stood.

And may we 'remember, and believe'...

Matt.26, Mark 14. Luke 22

That Jesus embraced the unclean, the unwanted, outside the city gate.

That Jesus with tax collectors, women, and sinners, talked, drank, ate.

That the only leper who returned to praise was the foreigner.

Luke 17:18

That the glory, hope and mystery is '*Christ in us*' — the real reformer. Colossians 1:27

**After this —**

We take nothing.

Luke 10:4

Yet You Lord, take us—

To holy earthy precious ground

To receive, to listen, and to trust

To be filled with wonder, Your grace and love

To point to Your Kingdom come—

Peace, healing, abundance,

God with, and among.

**After this**

**Renew us** again, and again,

Restore us, send us.

That we might remain.

Luke 10:7

As simple harvest workers,

neighbors in relationship sustained...

After this... may we see and know—what is immortal:

*... the home of God IS among all —who are mortal.*

Revelation 21:3

**In Go Local, we often talk about making some shifts towards participating more fully in God's Mission. Take a moment and do some Action Reflection Theology (ART) (another Go Local practice) by filling out this chart. How you are doing at making these shifts?**

The Shifts:	On a scale of 1-5, rate your growth:	Why did you rate yourself this way? What have you been learning about making this shift?
<i>1. ... A person who listens to the Spirit through the text and others.</i>		
<i>2. ... A person of relationship rather than results.</i>		
<i>3. ... A person who listens to their neighbors without an (their) agenda.</i>		
<i>4. ... A person who, equipped and empowered by the Spirit, is God's sent one, right where they live.</i>		