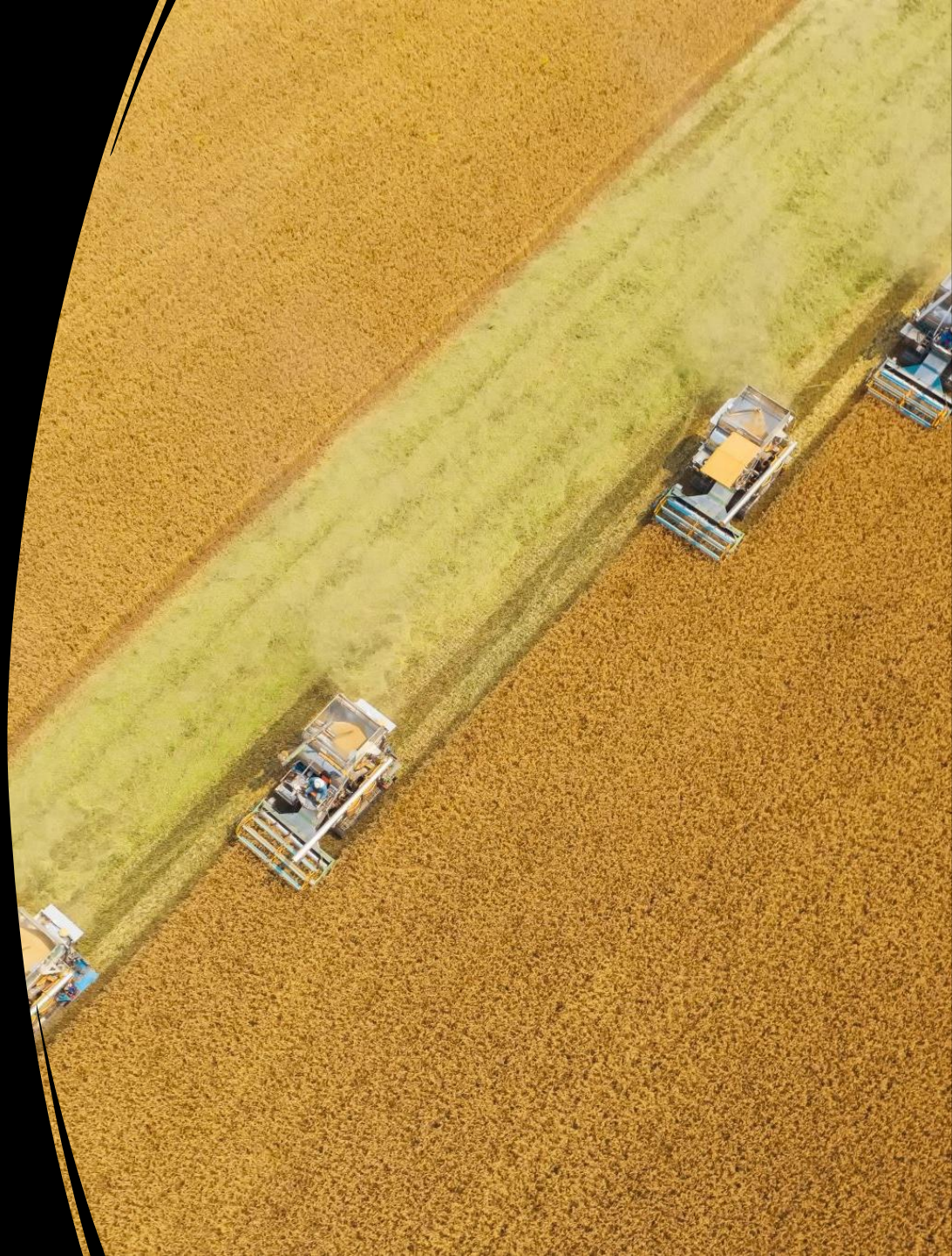


“The harvest
truly is great,
but the
laborers are
few...” –
Luke 10:2



Joining the Laborers

1st Sunday of Epip

All are Called

- “He who is not with Me is against Me, and he who does not gather with Me scatters abroad.” (Matt. 12:30)
- “Go therefore and make disciples of all the nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, teaching them to observe all things that I have commanded you; and lo, I am with you always, even to the end of the age.” (Matt. 28:19-20)

All are Called

- "He appointed seventy others also, and sent them two by two before His face into every city and place." (Luke 10:1)
- "Stand by your agreement and attend to it, and grow old in your work. Do not marvel at the works of a sinner, but trust in the Lord and continue in your labor." (Sir. 11:20-21)

An Apparent Disparity

- “The harvest truly is great, but the laborers are few; therefore pray the Lord of the harvest to send out laborers into His harvest.” (Luke 10:2)



Why send them two by two?

1. To Fulfill the Principle of Witness
 - "By the mouth of two or three witnesses the matter shall be established."
(Deuteronomy 19:15)
2. For Encouragement and Accountability
3. To Manifest the Communal Nature of the Church

Why send them two by two?

- To Reflect the Image of Christ and His Bride
- To teach the value of shared labor
 - "Two are better than one...For if they fall, one will lift up his companion."
(Ecclesiastes 4:9-10)

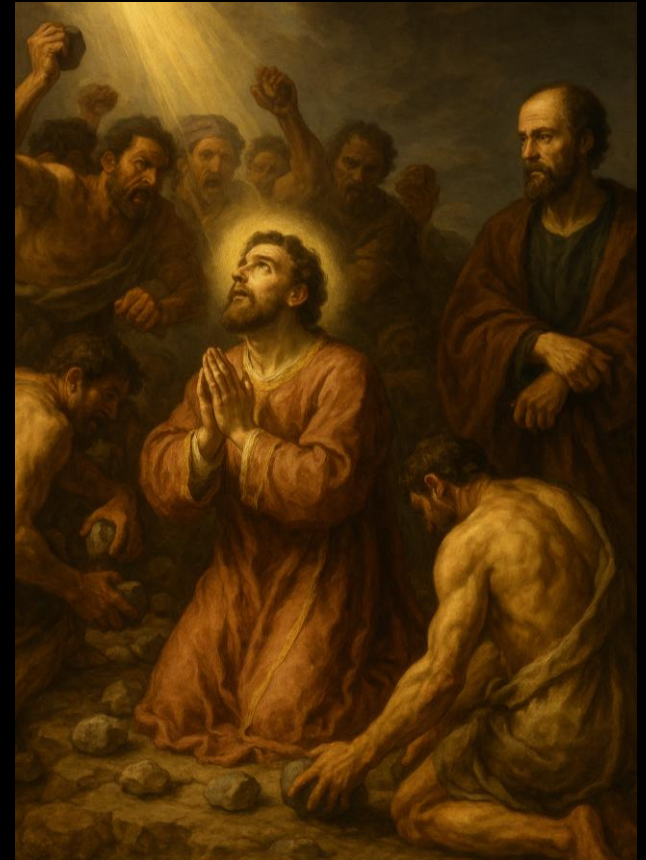
Lambs among wolves

- "I send you out as lambs among wolves." (Luke 10:3)
- What is expected when wolves meet lambs?
- EX: The disciples
- *"When the wolves devour the lambs, they themselves will be transformed into lambs."*



Lambs among wolves

- EX: St. Stephen
- Now when we heard these things, both we and those from that place pleaded with him not to go up to Jerusalem. Then Paul answered, "What do you mean by weeping and breaking my heart? For I am ready not only to be bound, but also to die at Jerusalem for the name of the Lord Jesus." (Acts 21:12-13)



An Agent of Peace

- "Whatever house you enter, first say, 'Peace to this house.'" (Luke 10:5)



Trust in the Lord

- “Carry neither money bag, knapsack, nor sandals; and greet no one along the road.”
(Luke 10:4)
- And He said to them,
"When I sent you
without money bag,
knapsack, and sandals,
did you lack anything?"
So they said, "Nothing."
(Luke 22:35)





Rejoice in Salvation

- “Do not rejoice in this, that the spirits are subject to you, but rather rejoice because your names are written in heaven.” (Luke 10:20)

Conclusion

- “Behold, My servants shall eat, but you shall be hungry; Behold, My servants shall drink, but you shall be thirsty; Behold, My servants shall rejoice, but you shall be ashamed.” (Isaiah 65:13)