October 22 Answers

Jesus sent <u>72</u> of His disciples to preach in the towns He was about to visit. When the disciples returned, they excitedly told Jesus that "even the <u>demons</u> are subject to us in your name!" Jesus' reaction is fascinating. Instead of asking how many had believed or how many demons they had cast out, Jesus told them to rejoice in their <u>identity</u>, not their activity. This teaches us that <u>who</u> we are in Christ is more important than what we achieve in ministry (Luke 10:20). Success is not about numbers or position; it's about faithfully <u>obeying</u> the One who called us to labor for the kingdom. Jesus' interaction with the lawyer who came to test Him teaches us several important lessons: 1) the Law can be summed up in two commands: love <u>God</u> and love <u>others</u> (Matt 22:40); 2) it's not enough to know what is right; we must also <u>do</u> what is right (Luke 10:28); 3) the Law is more concerned with showing <u>love</u> than strict adherence (Luke 10:31); 4) being a neighbor is about loving others, not about setting boundaries; when we see a need, we should take <u>action</u> (Luke 10:37).