

## *Passages that may be confusing*

### **Luke 10:4**

*“Do not take a purse or bag, or sandals; and do not greet anyone on the road.”*

This passage is in the middle of Jesus' instruction to the 72 whom He is sending out for some missionary work. There is a sense of urgency that they are to feel. They were to travel light, without a moneybag, luggage or extra sandals. They were to pack lightly and not fret about personal items like these.

The real puzzler seems to be “do not greet anyone on the road.” At first glance it would appear that they were not to be friendly, possibly to the point of being rude. If that were true they would not be effective in doing missionary work they were sent to do. WHAT IS MEANT is that they were not to stop along the way to visit and exchange customary lengthy greetings. Polite greetings could be time-consuming and would involve long discussions of one's family. This mission was urgent and no delay was to be tolerated.