



Sent by Jesus

By Taylor Braswell on May 17, 2022

TODAY'S READING: Mark 6

Jesus is rejected by his hometown in the beginning of Mark 6, and what he experienced will directly effect how he sends out his disciples in Mark 6:7-13. Jesus has been training His disciples, who have watched Him minister to others, and now it is their turn! As Christ followers, it is important to remember that we have the privilege of taking part in what God is doing all around the world. Making disciples is not an option, Christ commands it!

In verse seven, Jesus sends out his followers two-by-two. When I am with our students on a mission trip, I make them go out in groups. Not only are we safer going out in groups, but it is biblical. God did not create you to do ministry solo! You have been given a community of believers to help you as you make disciples. When you participate in Pray and Go with our church, be with a group! Jesus may have also sent them out in two's because the law during those days required two witnesses to confirm whether something had or had not happened. Notice Jesus also sends them out with His authority! Christian, you have the Holy Spirit inside you, and you are an ambassador of God.

In verses 8 and 9, Jesus sends his followers out with the bare minimum. It is no accident that these verses look almost identical to Exodus 12:11 when Gold told his people what to bring when they left Egypt. God wants us to see that Jesus is the greater Moses, and that this exodus is a greater exodus. Jesus wants us to depend on Him in this mission He has given us! Our ministry is not about material things. When we are a part of advancing God's kingdom, the less we have means we must have more faith in God.

Not everyone you share the gospel with will repent and trust in Christ. Jesus makes it very clear in verses 10 and 11 that some people will reject His followers because they reject Christ. It is important to note here that in this context, this would be like going on a short-term mission trip. The disciples were being sent out from town to town and likely would not be going back. When someone rejected them, Jesus told them to shake off the dust from their sandals--a sign that they were not accountable to God's judgement. The disciples were to preach the gospel and move on if they were rejected. Notice they preached that people should repent. Sometimes we can think we shared the gospel if we tell people God loves them and Jesus died for them. While these statements are true, we must call people to repent from their sin and trust in Christ! In a short-term context, we move on when rejected. In a context where we live and work with non-believers, do not give up on them, keep praying and keep sharing the gospel!

PRAYER: God, You are the Creator and Sustainer of my life and I praise You for who You are. Help me remember today that my life is a mission from You and that I represent You in all I do. Thank You for sending people who shared the gospel with me and help me be obedient to share the gospel with others.

TOMORROW'S READING: Mark 7

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