

Mark 6:6b-13

Rev. Dustin Largent

Then Jesus went around teaching from village to village.

- Jesus didn't let Nazareth keep Him from teaching. Message too important. Shook the dust off his feet and kept going.

⁷ Calling the Twelve to him, he began to send them out two by two and gave them authority over impure spirits.

- Why pairs? First, it's just easier to not tackle big things on your own.
- 2 witnesses. Jesus questioned on his solo witness in John 8. *¹⁶ But if I do judge, my decisions are true, because I am not alone. I stand with the Father, who sent me. ¹⁷ In your own Law it is written that the testimony of two witnesses is true. ¹⁸ I am one who testifies for myself; my other witness is the Father, who sent me.*
- It's one thing to walk with God incarnate and watch Him do things only God can do, but its another when God says to you, "Ok, now it's your turn."
- "To what? Teach?" yes, but also to drive out demons in demon possessed people. "Wait, What?"
- Look at what they are going to go do. It's basically what Jesus was doing.

¹² They went out and preached that people should repent. ¹³ They drove out many demons and anointed many sick people with oil and healed them.

- But Jesus, I can't do that? – I don't have supernatural power over sickness. I don't have power over demons that are bigger and more powerful than I.
- That's right so follow my instructions really closely because they will put you in the position you need to be in for you to be able to do things that only God has the authority to do.
- And the instructions are so seemingly unrelated to the mission that most people will miss that the instruction are necessary for them to be successful in the calling God gives them. Here they are.

⁸ These were his instructions: "Take nothing for the journey except a staff—no bread, that's ok, I'll buy food along the way. no bag, no money in your belts. ⁹ Wear sandals but not an extra shirt. This is literally on your back.

- So let me get this straight. I can't bring food and I can't take money to buy food. What will "I" do? Oh, I know. I'll beg. Nope
- Itinerant philosophers and religious teachers held their money in a money bag and when they needed money they would hold the empty bag open and beg.
- "You should repent and follow Jesus? And oh yeah, can you give me some money, the Jesus I want you to follow does a terrible job of providing for my basic needs."
- **That really is the point here. Doing God's work in His power and with His authority requires total dependance on God. Dependence on God in ministry can't be separate from dependence on God in daily life.**

¹⁰ Whenever you enter a house, stay there until you leave that town.

- Ask around and find a suitable place for you to stay when you are in that town. Someone who welcomes you and take care of you while you're there.

- God will provide through people. Reminds me of the last supper.

Mark 14:12-16 *¹² On the first day of the Festival of Unleavened Bread, when it was customary to sacrifice the Passover lamb, Jesus' disciples asked him, "Where do you want us to go and make preparations for you to eat the Passover?" We don't have a place. Can God provide a place to stay?*

¹³ So he sent two of his disciples, telling them, "Go into the city, and a man carrying a jar of water will meet you. Follow him. ¹⁴ Say to the owner of the house he enters, "The Teacher asks: Where is my guest room, where I may eat the Passover with my disciples?" ¹⁵ He will show you a large room upstairs, furnished and ready. Make preparations for us there."

¹⁶ The disciples left, went into the city and found things just as Jesus had told them. So they prepared the Passover.

- **Imagine the disciples go out 2 by 2 and they bring a suitcase and bring money with them and enough food to last them quite a while, do you think when they face their first demon possessed guy or person needing healing that they are in the right position of dependance on God to cast out that demon in total dependance on God.**
- Instead, they minister out of a life of dependance. I don't even eat without God. And I watch Him provide a meal at a time.
- And I believe Him when he says I have authority to heal this person because its just more of God's provision.

¹¹ And if any place will not welcome you or listen to you, leave that place and shake the dust off your feet as a testimony against them."

- When Jews had to go through a Gentile city, as they left they would shake the dust off their feet. "Don't want to take anything from this Gentile city with us."
- Jesus is saying – Consider any Jewish city that rejects the message of Jesus as a Gentile city. It's a *testimony against them*. A statement.
- "Hey! You can't do that, You're not supposed to judge!"
- **If you reject Jesus, I can agree with judgement already made by God.**
- Their job was to preach, not to change minds

¹² They went out and preached that people should repent. ¹³ They drove out many demons and anointed many sick people with oil and healed them.

- They actually went out.
- "REPENT" – Met-on-oya – to change one's mind in respect to sin, God and self.
- 4 factors that can prompt repentance
 1. Knowledge of God's truth.
 2. Sorrow for sin can lead to repentance
 3. God's kindness can lead to repentance.
 4. Fear of Judgement.
- **God calls us to and repent then grow in dependance on God is deeper and more radical ways.**