

Going Out in the World – Sept. 7, 2022

Jesus sends the 12 into the world. His instructions in Luke 9, Matt. 10, Mark 6:

Luke 9:1-2 – One day Jesus called together his 12 disciples & gave them power and authority to cast out all demons and to heal all diseases. 2 Then he sent them out to tell everyone about the Kingdom of God and to heal the sick.”

1 – Go in His power & authority

- Our ability to do anything is thru Jesus.
 - Enemy wants us to think we have power... Ego. Source of frustration!
- God gives us ability to help each other... we have to Go. Get out.
 - Disciples are sent out to do what Jesus has done. We are, too.
- We have authority to be conduits of healing and blessing every day.

2 Matt. 10:8 adds: “Freely you have received; freely give.”

- “Heal the sick, raise the dead, cleanse those who have leprosy, drive out demons. Freely you have received; freely give.”
- To do something **freely**: to give or do it willingly, w/o compelled, forced
- **Acts 20:35** – Apostle Paul: “remember the words of the Lord Jesus, how he himself said, ‘**It is more blessed to give than to receive.**’”
- **Bible principle for a blessed life: What God gives us is meant to be shared**
 - We have all received gifts/blessings from God. We have what we need.
 - The Twelve were equipped for their mission. So are we.
 - **1 Jn 2:20** – when we belong to Jesus, we “have an anointing from the Holy One”

Luke 9:3 - He told them: “Take nothing for the journey—no staff, no bag, no bread, no money, no extra shirt.”

Mark 6:8-9 - These were his instructions: “Take nothing for the journey *except a staff*—no bread, no bag, no money in your belts. 9 Wear sandals but not an extra shirt.”

Matthew 10:9-10 - “Do not get any gold or silver or copper to take with you in your belts— 10 no bag for the journey or extra shirt or sandals *or a staff*, for **the worker is worth his keep.**”

3 – Take Nothing for the Journey

- Learn to be dependent on God’s provision, and His generous people.
 - Ministry is about service, not worldly riches. Jesus left Heaven . . .
 - God feeds the sparrow, He will take care of us as we serve Him.
 - He knows how to raise up generous people...

- We don't prepare ourselves for service; God does it.
 - We want to be prepared for every contingency. But we can't – covid?
 - Only God can prepare us b/c only He knows what is ahead.
- It comes down to **Trust**.
 - The 12 had to trust that the One who commissioned them would provide for their needs.
 - Navy provides for its sailors. Boat, weapon, food, clothing.
 - What God calls us to do, He equips us to do, & provides the way
 - **Luke 22:35** – Jesus at Last Supper: “Jesus asked them, ‘When I sent you without purse, bag or sandals, did you lack anything?’” “Nothing,” they answered. **You will have what you need.**

4 – The Worker is worth his keep – Mt. 10:10

- We are worth God's resources and provision. We are valuable.
 - **Mt. 6:28-30** - “And why do you worry about clothes? See how the flowers of the field grow. They do not labor or spin. Yet I tell you that not even Solomon in all his splendor was dressed like one of these. If that is how God clothes the grass of the field, which is here today and tomorrow is thrown into the fire, will he not much more clothe you”
 - **Psalms 37:25** – “I was young and now I am old, yet I have never seen the righteous forsaken or their children begging bread.”
- **Vs.10** – take “no bag for the journey” – scholars think – no begging.
 - **God provides b/c He knows our needs before we do**

Matthew 10:11 – “Whatever town or village you enter, search there for some worthy person and stay at their house until you leave.”

5 - Find worth & Stay put (v. 11)

- Find worthy people – be choosy in choosing friends.
 - **Worthy doesn't mean wealthy.** It means good people. Kind. Givers.
 - Worthy people are supportive people; hospitable.
- Don't flit from place to place... always looking for something better.
 - Settle in, settle down, and be settled.
 - Choose to be happy and content with where God leads us
 - No place or person is perfect.
 - We learn in imperfect situations: Patient. Tolerant. Mercy...
 - **Calm seas never made a skilled sailor.**

Matt. 10:12-13 – “As you enter the home, give it your greeting. 13 If the home is deserving, let your peace rest on it; if it is not, let your peace return to you.”

6 – Give your greeting (blessing) – Mt. 10:12

- The Jewish greeting is “Shalom” – peace. Peace be to you, and with us.
 - Be people of peace as we deal with others.
 - As ambassadors for Jesus, we represent “the Prince of Peace.”
 - We can disagree without being disagreeable.
 - Mind your manners! ... Eat what is set before you (**Lk 10:8**)
 - **“Love is not Rude”**
- Some translations say – give your blessing. Be a blessing to others.
- “If the home is deserving” . . . “If a man of peace is there.” (**Lk 10:6**)
 - We can’t control others; only ourselves. We also can’t change them.
 - **Never try to teach a pig to sing. It wastes your time & annoys pig.**
 - If you can’t live in peace, move on.

Matt. 10:14 – “If anyone will not welcome you or listen to your words, leave that home or town and shake the dust off your feet.”

7 – Shake the Dust off your Feet

- We don’t do this... we don’t like defeat/rejection. We stay, chase.
- Don’t take rejection with you. Leave the pain behind like dust.
 - Move forward with peace. Don’t dwell on the past.
 - Sometimes we plant seeds, not trees.
 - **1 Cor. 3:6** – “I planted the seed, Apollos watered it, but God has been making it grow.”

Closing: Jesus gave the 12 a mission – purpose. He equipped them for the task. He gave clear instructions. They would have to trust God along the way. This is our mission, too. Be a blessing. Help others heal. Share good news-Jesus Trust. Go in peace; don’t dwell on rejection. Fulfill your mission.

Stay positive. Test negative. Vaccinated. “Crazy People” – Casting Crowns