

Sent Mark 6:7-13

Announcements

Women's Coffee Talk @ 3pm

In the Last Days-study of Olivet Discourse, Matt 24, Mon. @ 6:30pm

Saturday, Work day, Breakfast @8:30, work @ 9:15am

Clean, Get rid of stuff, fix things, landscape work

Sunday, Lamont & Shannon @ 11am

Join with us in prayer as we look into hiring a family pastor

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In the bulletin, on the inside cover, you will see our purpose here at Glide Baptist. Let me read it...

“Welcome to Glide Baptist. We intend to love God and love others by sharing the hope of Christ through REACH'ing those that don't have this hope, CONNECT'ing them to the family of God, EQUIP'ping believers for the work of God, and GO'ing out to restore a world looking for a lasting hope.”

Our passage this morning is the account of a time that Jesus sent His disciples out. Mark 3:14 and 15 says, “He appointed twelve that they might *be with him* and that he might *send them* out to preach and to *have authority* to drive out demons.” There are three important pieces found in these two verses.

The first: He might be with them. As Jesus wanted to be with the disciples, He wants to be with us. So much so that He was willing to take our sin upon Himself so that we could be with Him. He wanted them to be with Him so He could train them up, so they could watch Him and hear Him so they would know what to do and what to say. God sent Jesus, His Son to us. Jesus gave us His written word and the Holy Spirit to be with us. The Spirit is our counselor, guide, teacher, and the One our unity is in. He has given us His Spirit to be with us as we go.

The second: He might send them. Jesus wants to bring us into what He is doing. He wants us to experience the joy and reward of what He does. He trains us up and gives us the tools to do the ministry of Christ as He

sees fit. We have the message of truth and it is never meant to be kept private, but to be shared. He has given us a testimony. He has given us gifts and abilities and passions that are to be used to accomplish His works that He has prepared for us from before time.

The third: to have authority to cast out demons. This is a little more specific to the apostles. Driving out demons is the authority given to the apostles and isn't mentioned as an authority given to all disciples of Christ and what is interesting is that you don't really see that in the letters written to the churches. We do see the truth that our battle is not with flesh and blood, but it is against evil. We are told to stand firm against the devil's schemes. I do think the principle here is that we have the authority to speak the redemptive work of Christ. We have the authoritative power of God's holy word. God's word is what has power to reveal and conquer sin through the work of the Holy Spirit. Through it restoration can come. Through it healing can come. Through it the bondage that sin brings can be broken. Through it peace can be found.

Let's read our passage: Mark 6:7-13; this passage is paralleled with Matthew 10:1-15 and Luke 9:1-6

Verse 7 – Sent

- One of Mark's purposes in his account is God versus Satan; Matthew adds to heal disease and sickness
- Jesus sends out the disciples, and He wants to send us out. He prepares to send us out. He gives us what we need to be sent out. He wants us to go out.
- Two by two
 - Does that when He sends out the 70.
 - for a few reasons:
 - it fulfilled the requirement for the law for a testimony to be confirmed by the words of at least 2 witnesses according to Deuteronomy 17:6; 19:15.
 - Company, strength, accountability, companionship, encouragement, maybe a fuller testimony of the truth.
 - Not the first or last time (John the Baptist; common practice in early church
 - We weren't meant to do the work of God alone
- He gave them authority
 - another translation says 'power'

- really inherent power meaning “possessing the right to do a thing and having the power to carry it out”
- they were an extension of Him; We are an extension of Him
- John 14:12 “I tell you the truth, anyone who believes in me will do the same works I have done, and even greater works, because I am going to be with the Father.”
- Jesus has given us the mantle to save souls. He has given us the message and the ability to share it.
- Acts 1:8 “But you will receive power when the Holy Spirit comes upon you. And you will be my witnesses, telling people about me everywhere—in Jerusalem, throughout Judea, in Samaria, and to the ends of the earth.”
- We may feel inadequate, but His power rests in us and on us
 - we may be weak in our words and feel our testimony doesn't have much power, but Jesus has promised to give us His power. He has called us and empowered us to take the message of saving grace to the world and He will give us power to do it

I am of the firm belief that evangelism is not the sole purpose of the meeting of the church, and it really isn't the main purpose of us meeting. We should be welcoming, understanding, and gracious towards the guests within the church meeting together. I do believe that it is important that when the church comes together the gospel message should be evident in action and in deed. It should be taught and it should be clear.

The purpose of the church coming together is to worship, to equip, to teach, to encourage, and to send. We are sent out to be the visible picture of hope, to take the truth of God and live it out in our daily lives visible to the people we come in contact with, engaging with them in conversation that begins to stir within them a hunger and thirst to know about the God we serve, the God who wants to be with us and brings us into His work so that we can be rewarded and glorified with Him.

2 Corinthians 5 says this, “He died for everyone so that those who receive his new life will no longer live for themselves. Instead, they will live for Christ, who died and was raised for them. This means that anyone who belongs to Christ has become a new person. The old life is gone; a new life has begun! And all of this is a gift from God, who brought us back to himself through Christ.” [CATCH THIS NEXT PART] “And God has given us this task of reconciling people to him. For God was in Christ,

reconciling the world to himself, no longer counting people's sins against them. And he gave us this wonderful message of reconciliation. So we are Christ's ambassadors; God is making his appeal through us. We speak for Christ when we plead, "Come back to God!"

We are His ambassadors, His witnesses. Maybe you're thinking I haven't even witnessed Him. You have. Through His word. In your salvation. In the overcoming of your sin. In the hope of your future. The faithfulness you have seen in your life. In His provision. The things He has done in your life. The change you have seen in other believers. And so much more. We have become a new person. That old self no longer has to rule our life. What we did or what was done to us no longer has to be our identity. We have a new identity. That old identity is put to death. We no longer have to look backwards, but now we have something to look forward too and experience. God is sending us as the new person, not the old.

We are being sent to testify to who Christ is and what He has done. We may feel inadequate, and really on our own merit, we are. We are simply charged with the role of being an ambassador with the tools, story, experiences, and grace God has given you. You are uniquely wired and uniquely placed with a unique opportunity. It's unique to you, and I can't fill it, neither can the people nearest you.

Hudson Taylor, the great missionary to China who said, God's work, done God's way, will not lack God's supply. Doing the work of Christ on our own strength may have some merit, but when we team up with the Spirit of God, trusting the Spirit of God, learning to go where the Spirit of God leads, doing the works the Spirit of God sets out before us, trying to be obedient and faithful to Him in our everyday lives, loving as He loves, when we simply just surrender and say "Here I am, use me Lord" we will not lack God's supply. It will show up in ways you didn't expect. Sometimes God's supply won't show up until just the right time. Sometimes you won't see it until later. Many times our simple obedience and trust in God is the greatest evangelistic tool in our tool chest. One of the principles I want us to see today is that success in being sent out is not found in lots of results, but simply in being faithful to live and give the message.

Verses 8-10—Trust

-The importance isn't necessarily what Jesus told them to take. It was the principle He was giving them—to trust in what they have been taught and experienced with Jesus and that they could trust God's provision

-Jesus told them--instructed--really a stronger word that is a command

-When Jesus tells what we are to do, we need to obey

-There are times it is prudent to plan, Prov 27:12 "A prudent person foresees danger and takes precautions. The simpleton goes blindly on and suffers the consequences."

-If Jesus commands us to go though, we need to go and trust He will provide and make arrangements

-story of us being hired, coming by July 15th, house selling, and having a place to stay here

-Stay in the same house

-stay there until you leave

-It was common practice for hospitality if someone came to a village to house and feed them

-Don't move from one place to another

-Don't move up to wealthier and more comfortable, just stay at the first place that is a worthy place

-Temptation of moving your way up social ladder, or better accommodations

-maybe to keep from thinking of yourself and the gain you can get from others

-When Jesus said stay in one place it was to keep them from bouncing around, maybe getting better accommodations.

-Would distract them from the mission

-Could cause undo stress, embarrassment, and strife amongst those they were going to

-keeps from showing favoritism (James 2)

-favoritism often times is the way of making one group more important than another, it is giving more opportunity to one group and shutting another group out

-Later, in Luke 22 He would tell them to take things; different missions required different things They were to go as they were, in full faith that

-God would take care of them, but not blindly.

- Dependence upon God is key; the opposite is worry
- Matthew 6:25-31, "The Lord takes care of the lilies of the fields"
Do we need to worry?
- Phil 4:19 "And this same God who takes care of me will supply all your needs from his glorious riches, which have been given to us in Christ Jesus."
- Proverbs Prov 21:20 "The wise have wealth and luxury, but fools spend whatever they get."
- There was a sense of urgency
 - They were to travel light, and able to go
 - Not bogged down by too many commitments (loans and credit cards will do this), busyness, material goods (lots of stuff)
 - It wasn't a matter of having stuff, it was a matter of being faithful to the mission
- We are not to seek out gain from others
 - When Jesus said stay in one place it was to keep them from bouncing around, maybe getting better accommodations.
 - Would distract them from the mission
 - Could cause undo stress, embarrassment, and strife amongst those they were going to
 - Seeking gain often times shows up through favoritism
 - James 2

When God calls us to ministry, we need to trust Him. He will provide.

Verses 11 — Some will accept us and some will reject us

- Nazareth did not accept Jesus (verses 1-6)
- There are those that will not accept the message
- For those that don't
 - Jewish custom was to shake the dust off your feet as you left Gentile lands so you would not give influence and the holy land was not tainted; it was a way of showing that
 - This is shocking to us, and almost rude
 - But there is an understanding we need,
 - those that don't accept or are hostile to the message of God and the messenger of God are under judgment
 - this isn't God turning a deaf ear to some and liking others, showing favoritism
 - these are people who have heard, seen, and rejected.

- they heard the message
- they saw the miracles that qualified them Jesus and the disciples as messengers of someone with a messenger to hear
- and they still rejected the message

Today we are afraid to the point where we don't call sin sin and share of it's devastation in regards to our future. Often, we have to find words that are less offensive or we just don't talk about it period. We have to use positive words. Don't discipline the child with negative words, but use positive reinforcement only. When they make a mistake, don't give or make them suffer consequences, instead just reinforce them when they do something right.

-We must remember, Jesus sent these guys to the house of Israel, not anywhere else. (We get that from Matthew's account)

- Basically saying you are looking for the Messiah, and we are telling you about Him, doing signs that testify what we are saying is true, and you still are ignoring
- to shake the dust off was a stark picture of God's judgment upon them

-Matthew's account says, "It would be better for them to be Sodom and Gomorrah because there judgment would be less" They will still be judged, but maybe not to the extreme as those that hear, see, and reject.

We think of Sodom and Gomorrah and often we think of their sin as so reprehensible, so offensive and yet it doesn't compare to the offensiveness to God of someone who hears, sees, and rejects the message of God

- For some, they needed to have something as blatant as shaking the dust off their feet in order to see how important this message the disciples brought was

Verse 12-13--Success in the kingdom

They preached

- it does not say, "They preached and everyone repented and believed"

- success is in us revealing Christ
- the works they did were to authenticate their message
 - we aren't given the command to cast out demons and heal the sick
 - we are given the command to share the Word of God, the cross and resurrection. We have the written word of God that they did not have. Lives are changed. That authenticates the message. A changed life authenticates the message of God.

Anointed with oil

- olive oil was used medicinally for many things.
- it symbolized the presence and power of God
- James 5 "anoint with oil in the name of the Lord and pray for them"
- God uses medicine to heal, but the picture here is more than that. It is God stepping in and doing something supernatural.

Principles

1. Jesus has taken time preparing the disciples and now is sending them out with the message of Christ. Jesus has set the example for us. We are being sent out.
2. We aren't lone rangers
 - a. Support
 - b. Encouragement
 - c. Strengthening
 - d. Accountability
 - e. There is power in numbers! It's important to remember that we are fighting a spiritual battle
2. Cultivate a lifestyle that isn't so bogged down you can't share the gospel. Bogged down with items, finances, or commitments and busyness, or striving so hard for gain that your message loses power. Those things will be a distraction.
3. Dependence on God is key. The opposite is worry. (Matthew 6:31-33)
 - a. As God takes care of you, it will testify to His power and care
 - b. As you trust in Him, people will take notice and have to make a decision
5. Our message is repent and believe.

6. As people of God we are sent out by Jesus, told to trust Him as we go for all our needs, we will be rejected by some, but our success isn't in souls being saved, our success is in being faithful to the call.