

I. Introduction: Learning by doing. Mark 3:14II. Jesus sends out the twelve. 9:1-2

- A. He gives them His power and authority. v. 1 4:36
1. Power is the ability to accomplish something. 4:16 5:17 6:19 8:46 Acts 1:8 10:38
 2. Authority is having the right to act or speak. 4:32 5:24
- B. He sends them to carry on His work. v. 2,11 4:18-19,43 8:39 10:1-11,16 20:10 22:35-38 24:48-49 John 20:21 Acts 3:26 1:6-8
1. Preaching the kingdom/gospel message is their primary calling. v. 6 3:3 4:18-19 4:43f 8:1 9:60 10:9 Isa. 61:1-2 Mark 6:12 Ro. 10:17
 2. They also are empowered and authorized to heal and cast out demons. 4:38-40 5:12ff 6:6-10 11:20 Isa. 61:1-2
- C. What are some differences between the twelve and those whom Jesus sends today? The apostolic role was unique and foundational. 22:30 Eph. 2:20 2 Co. 12:12 Rev. 21:14 Heb. 2:3-4 Rom. 15:18-20
- D. What are some ongoing principles we can learn from Jesus' sending out the twelve?
1. Our primary calling is to preach the gospel – both inside and outside of the church. 2 Tim. 4:1ff 1 Co. 2:5 Ro. 10:17
 2. Our gospel proclamation comes with Jesus' power and authority. Acts 1:8 Ro. 1:16f
 3. Whom does Jesus send, authorize and empower today? Rom. 10:15 Acts 13:1ff 2 Ti. 1:6 1 Tim. 4:14 5:17,22 4:13-16 Heb. 13:17 Mt. 18:17-20 1 Co. 2:2
 4. Beware of false apostles who try to use counterfeit miracles to claim authority. Mt. 7:15 24:5 Acts 20:29-30 Mark 13:22 2 Th. 2:9 2 Jo. 1:7
 5. We also are to be concerned with the physical needs of those to whom we minister. Gal. 2:10 6:10 1 Tim. 5:3ff Acts 2:44-45 4:34-35
 6. We too should equip people so that ministry can be multiplied. 2 Tim. 2:2 1 Tim. 2:6 5:22 Titus 2:3-5

III. Jesus gives them instructions for their mission. 9:3-5

- A. Why does He tell them to travel light? v. 3 Mt. 10:8
1. They will be completely dependent upon God for provision. 4:4 11:3 Mt. 6:25-34
 2. Discipleship involves a detachment from the concerns of this world. 8:14 9:23-25,58
 3. This may also express the urgency of their kingdom mission. 9:57-62
- B. Why must they remain in the same house until they depart from a given locality? v. 4
1. Those who embrace Jesus' message will offer hospitality to the messengers. 10:7 Mt. 10:12-13 Acts 16:15 9:43 18:2,20 Phm. 1:22
 2. The disciples' behavior should surpass that of greedy false teachers. 20:47 1 Tim. 6:5
- C. They must be prepared to experience rejection. v. 5
1. Just as they follow in Jesus' steps as they preach and heal, they will follow in the steps of His suffering. 4:28-30 6:11 8:37
 2. Those who reject them also reject the Lord. 10:16 John 13:20
 3. The shaking off of dust is a sign of judgment and of warning. 10:11 Acts 13:45-46,51

- D. Must all of those who preach the gospel have an identical lifestyle and methodology?
 - 1. These instructions are given for this particular situation.
 - 2. Different instructions apply in other situations. 22:35-38 1 Ti. 5:17f 1 Co. 9:13f

- E. What ongoing principles can we learn from Jesus' instructions to the twelve?
 - 1. We should show hospitality to the Lord's servants. 1 Pe. 4:9 Rom. 12:13 Heb. 13:2
 - 2. Those who serve the Lord should be content with a simple lifestyle. 16:14 Phil. 4:11-13 1 Tim. 6:3-10 Acts 3:6
 - 3. Those who serve the Lord are dependent upon Him to supply their needs. 11:3
 - 4. We should be sure that those who proclaim the gospel have enough. 10:7 1 Co. 9:13-14 1 Tim. 5:17-18
 - 5. Those who represent Christ must be prepared for rejection. 2 Co. 2:15-16 Jo. 15:18
 - 6. Neutrality is impossible where the gospel is concerned. 9:50 Mt. 12:30
 - 7. Sometimes we must walk away (in grief, not in anger). 19:41 Mt. 7:6 Rom. 9:1ff

IV. The disciples go throughout Galilee successfully preaching and healing. v. 6,10-11

- A. God uses them in spite of their weakness both in faith and understanding. 8:25 9:13
- B. How could Judas Iscariot have successfully participated in this mission? Mt. 7:21-23
- C. Jesus tries to give His disciples some rest. v. 10 Mark 6:31
- D. When He cannot escape the crowds, He graciously welcomes them. v. 11 Mark 6:34
- E. What ongoing principles do we learn from the success of the apostles?
 - 1. God is able to work through weak or unqualified men. 1 Co. 1:26ff Phil. 1:15-18
 - 2. There will always be wolves among the shepherds. Acts 20:29-30
 - 3. We (especially leaders) should emulate Jesus' compassion for needy souls.

V. Jesus' ministry gets the attention of Herod. v. 7-9

- A. As the good news of the kingdom of God is preached throughout Galilee, Jesus' ministry gets the attention of Herod. v. 7a 3:20 Matt. 2:1ff Mark 6:17-29
- B. Herod is perplexed – "Who is this man?" v. 7b-8 5:21 7:19-20 8:25 9:18-19 22:67,70 1:17 4:25-26 9:30 Mal. 4:5 3:1 Deut. 18:15ff
- C. His question is about to receive the definitive answer. 9:20,35,22
- D. Why does Herod want to see Jesus? v. 9 23:8 13:31-33 Acts 4:27
- E. What is the significance of Herod's appearance here?
 - 1. Opposition to Jesus is building which will finally lead to His crucifixion.
 - 2. Herod is a picture of how blind and hardened some sinners are. 8:10 23:8 Mark 6:20

VI. Concluding applications.

Discussion questions

1. Which aspects of Jesus' sending forth His disciples are unique and no longer apply today?
2. What would you say to someone who claims that those who proclaim the gospel should take nothing with them as they go forth and they should expect to work miracles?
3. What ongoing principles can we learn from how Jesus sent forth His disciples?
4. What is an appropriate lifestyle for a missionary?
5. Are there times we should shake the dust off our feet?
6. How should we train our future leaders?
7. Whom does Jesus send today?
 - How can we know that He has sent them?
8. How can you be involved in equipping others to do ministry?
9. How could you benefit from being discipled?
 - Whom can you approach to help train you?