



Message Discussion Guide Week of May 12, 2024

Message: Walking the Talk, Part 6: Called and Sent

Key Scriptures: [Mark 6:6b-13](#)

Preacher: Tom Parkinson

Message Highlights:

There is a parental nature to Jesus' relationship with his disciples. Jesus not only wants to teach them new skills, he also wants to instill in them new values and nurture them to be different people.

Through the first five chapters of Mark's gospel, the disciples are observers. In chapter 6 the action shifts as Jesus mobilizes the disciples, sending them out to replicate his ministry.

- We are comfortable saying that we are called just like the disciples to follow Jesus. We are less comfortable saying that we are sent like the disciples to do Jesus' mission.
- Every follower of Jesus is both called and sent. We are called to follow Jesus and sent by him to be the body of Christ, doing his work in the world.

In Mark 6:6-13 Jesus teaches five practical principles for those sent by Jesus into the mission field:

1. **Never go alone** – God always surround us with partners for support, protection, and fellowship.
2. **Take authority from Jesus** – What we are sent to do is beyond our abilities. It is only when Jesus works through us that we can be successful.
3. **Cultivate a simple lifestyle** – Serving Jesus means being unencumbered by the things of the world, and being content with basic needs, never letting wants impede us from being faithful.
4. **Full depend on God** – We will never know God's presence and power more until we have learned to trust God to provide when we have no other options.
5. **Focus on faithfulness, not results** – Sometimes we will experience rejection, resistance, and failure. We are called to be faithful and trust God with the outcome.

Discussion Questions:

- 1.) Pastor Tom declared that God's plan for spreading His image and light is from parent to child. What does this statement mean? What is the role of parenting in sharing God's faith? How is our relationship with God parental in nature?
- 2.) Why are we more comfortable with thinking of ourselves as called by Jesus than we are with being sent by Jesus? Where is Jesus sending us? Why is it scary to be sent by Jesus?
- 3.) [Read Mark 6:6b-13](#)
 - a. What is Jesus' primary reason for sending the twelve?
 - b. What will the disciples be doing? How is it like what Jesus has already been doing?
 - c. Why does Jesus want the disciples to travel light?
 - d. What does it mean for the disciples to "shake the dust off your feet."
 - e. What does it mean to repent? Why do the disciples tell people to repent?
 - f. What is the significance of anointing with oil?
- 4.) Review the five principles Pastor Tom shared for when we are sent on mission by Jesus. Which of the five is most difficult for you to implement? Which one is the most important to you personally?
- 5.) What is your primary takeaway from this message?