

Dear Sisters and Brothers,

Hallelujah! A Day of Praise!!! He's worthy to be praised. Saints praise God today.

Lesson: **Matthew 10: Mark 6**

Jesus had been going about teaching the people, healing the sick, and raising the dead. Jesus was the teacher and He had disciples as learner students. It was time for the students to step up. What better way to find out what the students learned than to let them practice. Jesus gives the disciples/apostles instructions on going out witnessing to and teaching the people. In the Mark 6 Jesus said the harvest is plentiful but the laborers are few. It was now time to send laborers out to the harvest.

He gave the apostles power.

Matthew 10

1 And when he had called unto him his twelve disciples, he gave them power against unclean spirits, to cast them out, and to heal all manner of sickness and all manner of disease.

2 Now the names of the twelve apostles are these; The first, Simon, who is called Peter, and Andrew his brother; James the son of Zebedee, and John his brother;

3 Philip, and Bartholomew; Thomas, and Matthew the publican; James the son of Alphaeus, and Lebbaeus, whose surname was Thaddaeus;

4 Simon the Canaanite, and Judas Iscariot, who also betrayed him.

5 These twelve Jesus sent forth, and commanded them, saying, Go not into the way of the Gentiles, and into any city of the Samaritans enter ye not:

Jesus can and will give us power to do these things today. Some of our problem is we want the power for personal gain and not to do the work of the kingdom of God. Jesus gave them instructions on where to go, how to go, when to go, and what to do. He told them not to worry about money, food, clothes or shelter. These are the things we focus on first when we are called to go. It is not that we do not need these things but if the Lord sends you, the Lord will provide for you. Answer the call and the provision will be there for you. We want to see the provisions before we answer the call. Jesus told them that some will receive you and some will not receive you. It is our job to go and tell. We should not worry about the reception.

Mark 6

8 And commanded them that they should take nothing for their journey, save a staff only; no scrip, no bread, no money in their purse:

9 But be shod with sandals; and not put on two coats.

10 And he said unto them, In what place soever ye enter into an house, there abide till ye depart from that place.

11 And whosoever shall not receive you, nor hear you, when ye depart thence, shake off the dust under your feet for a testimony against them. Verily I say unto you, It shall be more tolerable for Sodom and Gomorrha in the day of judgment, than for that city.

12 And they went out, and preached that men should repent.

Jesus told them He was sending them out as sheep among wolves. The world will try to devour us but we must stand firm and speak what God has given the Holy Spirit to tell us to say. The Holy Spirit will teach us what to say. A student is not greater than the teacher nor a servant greater than his master. None is greater than the Master Teacher Jesus Christ. Yes we may reach more people in short periods of time because of modern means- airplanes, cars, trains, buses, etc. rather than walking; Cable, satellite, radio, telephone, advance communications rather than shouting from the river banks. Jesus knew this. He said greater works will you do but He did not say we will be greater than the master teacher. It is good for the student to be like the teacher.

Jesus told the disciples that they would see all kind of dispositions in this world. People against people even in their own families. This is happening more today than ever before. Parents are killing children, children killing parents, husbands against wives, wives against husbands etc.

Jesus kept telling His apostles " Do not be afraid of them".

Matthew 10

27 What I tell you in darkness, that speak ye in light: and what ye hear in the ear, that preach ye upon the housetops.

28 And fear not them which kill the body, but are not able to kill the soul: but rather fear him which is able to destroy both soul and body in hell.

Jesus went on to say.

Matthew 10

32 Whosoever therefore shall confess me before men, him will I confess also before my Father which is in heaven.

33 But whosoever shall deny me before men, him will I also deny before my Father which is in heaven.

Jesus wants us but He does not want us to be ashamed of Him. He wants us to own Him before men and He will own us before the Father.

He told them those who receive them receives Him (Jesus)also. We do not have to try to make people receive us. We give them the word and it is their choice to accept or reject.

During this time, Jesus received word that His forerunner John the Baptist had been executed. John died for what he believed. John was one who stood firm and preached the kingdom of God. Prestige, wealth, nor High Officials could stop John from preaching the word. Many of us are not literally killed but we are rejected and we feel killed in our spirits. We can not let this stop us. If they do not receive you, dust your feet and go on to your next mission stop.

Mark 6

11 And whosoever shall not receive you, nor hear you, when ye depart thence, shake off the dust under your feet for a testimony against them. Verily I say unto you, It shall be more tolerable for Sodom and Gomorrha in the day of judgment, than for that city.

Times may have changed but God's word is still the same. Jesus is still calling for disciples to go to the harvest and preach the word.
Will you answer the call?

Dear Father,

Thank You for the many ways You have given man the knowledge to spread Your word. Father we have no excuse -- TV, Cable, Satellite, Radio, Email, CDs, Tapes, Churches on every corner, etc. Your word can go forth. Father give us the boldness to make known the mystery of the gospel to others wherever we go.

Holy Spirit please teach us to know what to say, when to say, how to say and where to say. Lord help us to follow Your spirit and we will know why we are saying the things we say. Lord Father I feel an anointing in the ministry. Please raise us up to own You before a dying world.
Thank You Jesus. It is in Your name we pray.

Friend of Jesus,

Gail