



‘Now!’ Sermon Series

Sermon #21

‘Saved to be Sent!’

Mark 6:7-13

Sunday, September 22nd, 2024

Last week in ‘NOW’ sermon series:

- Last week we looked at the first 6 verses in this chapter, as Jesus returned to Nazareth and was met with much resistance in His hometown.
 - *Jesus was not able to do many miracles and healings in Nazareth due to being without honor in His hometown.*
- *We looked at those verses last week and how Jesus was hated in His hometown, we discussed how those who are called to Pastor will experience similar treatment.*
 - From the text I asked the question: *How is Jesus hated in His hometown of Nazareth, and*

how does that show us that Pastors today ought not to serve in their own ‘home’ towns and communities?

- **Truth 1:** *Hometown Relationships can Block Your Ministry. (V. 1-3)*
- **Truth 2:** *Honor is Non-Existent in Your Hometown. (V. 4)*
- **Truth 3:** *Hindrances to the Ministry can Occur in Your Hometown. (V. 5-6)*
- Based on last week’s message, is there any unbelief in your heart?
 - If so, what parts of your heart do you still need to surrender and fully put your faith in Jesus.

‘Saved to be Sent!’

Mark 6:7-13

Sermon in a Sentence:

We can allow Jesus to send us WHEREVER He wants us when we Lean into His Authority, Leave our personal Accommodations behind, Linger as long as we’re Accepted, and Listen to our Assignment.

Intro:

- *In order to fully understand the magnitude of Jesus making the decision in this text to send out the disciples to continue His ministry in the area, we must look back to Mark 3:14-15:*

- ‘And he appointed twelve (whom he also named apostles) so that they might be with him and he might send them out to preach **15** and have authority to cast out demons.’ Mark 3:14-15
 - *Up until now, these disciples had not been sent out by Jesus.*
 - *But now, He was sending them out?*
 - *Why was there a delay, or lapse in time?*
 - They simply weren’t ready to be sent out after they had just believed in Jesus.
 - *This is a clear indication that the day after someone is saved, is not the day that they need to begin teaching a Sunday school class.*
 - Or the day they need to be sent out on the mission field.
 - Or the day that they need to immediately start working with kids.
 - *It’s very important that there is a training and testing time before one is sent out.*
 - But, that doesn’t take away the fact that we as saved people should allow ourselves to be sent out wherever God may lead.
 - *The passage we’ve arrived to today is a turning point in Jesus own ministry.*
- *Before this time, it was only Jesus who had healed diseases, preached, performed miracles and confronted the jewish religious establishment.*
 - This is the first time in Mark’s Gospel where Jesus gives that authority to His disciples, who He had been spending great time with and training in the process.
 - *So, why did Jesus ‘all of a sudden’ commission His disciples out into the region to do ministry?*
 - *#1: They were Ready.*
 - They had spent countless hours with Jesus seeing what He had been doing.
 - Jesus had taught them how to do these things and also the source with which to do it, God Himself.
 - *#2: He Realized He couldn’t do it all.*
 - Jesus knew (because He was sovereign), that His time was limited.
 - So, although Nazareth wouldn’t accept Him, He and the disciples moved on to the neighboring towns and villages.
 - *JM said ‘Jesus strategically multiplied the extent of His ministry by sending the Twelve as His heralds throughout the region.’*

- *Jesus wanted to increase the impact of His ministry, so that His disciples were ready, He sent them out to the area.*
 - We must not forget that Jesus was fully God, yet still fully human.
 - *So, after being rejected by His hometown, I'm sure that He felt down, but notice that didn't deter Him.*
 - *He is going to continue to seek to fulfill the will of His Father by enabling and sending 12 men out that He had trained and spent time with.*
 - As we walk through this text this morning and see 4 specific truths from the text on how we need to allow Jesus to send us out, I want to ask you:
 - How long have you been saved? And are you truly living a SENT lifestyle?
- *Read Mark 6:7-13**

Question to Ask:

How do we as saved people allow Jesus to send us out to do His work just as He sent His disciples out in this text?

Truth #1: *Lean into His Authority.* (V. 7)

- ‘And he called the twelve and began to send them out two by two, and gave them authority over the unclean spirits.’ Mark 6:7

- *When you were saved, you were saved by His grace through your own personal faith.*
 - *The same thing is true when we are sent out by Jesus.*
 - *We do so by His Authority and our faith in His Authority and power.*
- *You can't live a SENT life if you don't lean into the authority of the One who is sending you.*
 - I feel certain that as Jesus brought the 12 together to let them know the time had finally come for them to be sent out, Peter was ready to go and I'm sure the others were too, their time had finally come.
- *Sadly, this is where I feel you and I greatly differ from the Disciples.*
 - *We would rather live a life of being SEATED than a life of being SENT.*
 - *There's a big difference and you personally have to figure out in your heart today where you currently are.*
 - *SENT or SEATED?*
- I believe Jesus shared with His Disciples **3** things they needed to know as they went out and Leaned into His Authority.
- *You are a Messenger. (V. 7a)*
 - ‘And he called the twelve’

- The word ‘called’ here more than likely serves as a verbal utterance used to round up the disciples.

- **Some translations will translate it as ‘summons’.**

- **Either way, I find this word imperative to being able to lean into the authority of God.**

- In order to lean in, we must answer the call. Heed his Summons, as we seek to work for Him.
 - ‘Behold, I stand at the door and knock. If anyone hears my voice and opens the door, I will come in to him and eat with him, and he with me.’ Revelation 3:20

- **Have you opened the door?**

- **I want to draw your attention not just to the fact that Jesus called them together, but that He called all twelve.**

- Meaning, that Christ called Judas to be sent out and do ministry in His name.
 - **Remember, Christ is all knowing so He knows that Judas will ultimately betray Him one day.**

- This shows you and I, that not everyone who does ministry is truly saved. You’ve got to make sure in your heart today that you serve the Lord out of a love and longing for Him...

- **You are a Teammate. (V. 7b)**

- ‘and began to send them out two by two,’

- **The person that is on the right or left of you this morning, is your teammate in the Kingdom of God.**

- Jesus shows us and the disciples here a very important lesson, that when it comes to Kingdom work (not just marriage), two is better than one.
 - ‘And though a man might prevail against one who is alone, two will withstand him—a threefold cord is not quickly broken.’ Ecclesiastes 4:12 ESV

- ‘And began’

- **The use of the word ‘began’ in the text gives the idea that Jesus didn’t sent all the pairs out at once, but staggered them.**

- ***Word Study***

- The english phrase **‘to send’** comes from the greek verb **‘Apostello’** ἀποστέλλειν which comes from the greek noun, **apostolos** which is translated **Apostles.**

- This word occurs **132** times in the NT, and literally means to send forth a messenger, agent or command.
 - *In the greek this verb is a Present Active Infinitive.*
 - Meaning, it was an immediate action, they were sent. No delay.
 - JM points out that Mark's usage of this particular greek verb gives us a modern day implication '*the faithful messenger accurately and urgently proclaims the good news of salvation to the lost.*'
 - *You are saved to be sent, not saved to stay seated.*
- Not only does Jesus send them out, but He sends them out in pairs...
 - *There are three specific reasons that Jesus sends them out in pairs.*
 - **#1:** The OT law required two witnesses to verify any particular matter according to Deuteronomy 17:6.
 - **#2:** Being sent out in pairs conformed to the Jewish way of thinking that was continued by the early Church.
- 'Two are better than one, because they have a good reward for their toil. **10** For if they fall, one will lift up his fellow. But woe to him who is alone when he falls and has not another to lift him up!' Ecclesiastes 4:9-10
 - **#3:** In the ancient world (as it is today), it's safer to have someone with you. A lone ranger is an easy target.
- Scholar James Brooks made a good observation when he said '*It may also tone down individualism and suggest the necessity of teamwork.*'
- **You have Authority over Demons. (V. 7c)**
 - 'and gave them authority over the unclean spirits.'
 - If you are a Christian, and the Holy Spirit of God resides in you, then you have the authority to cast out demons.
 - *When Jesus gave this authority to the disciples, they were authorized and appointed representatives.*
 - *This is a reminder to you and I that we, just as the twelve, are extensions of King Jesus.*

- This is an honor Church, but a great responsibility.
 - *‘Therefore, we are ambassadors for Christ, God making his appeal through us.’ 2nd Corinthians 5:20a*
- In order to be the best ambassador that we can be for the King, we must lean into His Authority.
- *You have great authority over the demonic world in and through Jesus, but how do you live your daily life by being an extension of the master and leaning into His Authority?*

Truth #2: *Leave your personal Accommodations behind. (V. 8-9)*

- ‘He charged them to take nothing for their journey except a staff—no bread, no bag, no money in their belts— 9 but to wear sandals and not put on two tunics.’
 - *While these verses do seem strange to us, I think Jesus is showing the disciples (and us) that as true ambassadors for Christ we are to live differently than the world.*
 - In these verses I see that we are not to travel and share Christ with the idea of gaining materialistic things.
 - That is not our goal.
 - *The application in these verses for us is that as we live a SENT lifestyle, we do so without the*

obsession of personal and material accommodations.

- So, what’s the purpose of leaving our personal accommodations behind in living a SENT life?
- I believe there are 2 important things to point out...
- ***No Excess Baggage. (V. 8)***
 - ‘He charged them to take nothing for their journey except a staff—no bread, no bag, no money in their belts—’
 - ***Jesus does not want them to take anything on their ministry journey that could potentially be a hindrance.***
 - He wants them to travel light and the only thing they can take is a staff.
 - ***Why a staff?***
 - Mark may have mentioned the staff for walking, as well as for protecting oneself from animals or robbers.
 - ***Either way, Christ didn’t want them to bring anything extra.***
 - Scholar James Brooks said ***‘The prohibitions suggest the urgency of the mission and the necessity of trusting God for provisions. They make the disciples dependent upon God alone for all their necessities.’***
 - Living a sent life for Jesus is to really and truly depend on Him for everything.

So if these disciples were to bring all they needed, they are giving Jesus little to no opportunity to provide for their needs.

- ***I believe that Jesus also didn't want them to take 'extra baggage' so that they could be ready to leave at anytime.***

- Now the 'bag' that is mentioned here could have been potentially what was known in the Greco-Roman culture as a beggar's bag.

- ***Meaning, if they needed something travelers would stand or sit at a street corner and beg.***

- ***While these verses may seem very intriguing to us, the bottom line is that when you live a SENT life for Jesus Christ you totally depend on Him and not on yourself.***

- ***No Depending on Material Things. (V. 9)***

- 'but to wear sandals and not put on two tunics.'
- The greek word that is translated to 'tunic' usually referred to under garments, but the second tunic could actually be an outer garment that would suffice as a blanket.

- ***What Jesus tells them to do here is connected to verses 10-11, but that the host of the home they are staying in will provide their bedding. They don't need to worry.***

- ***So many times in our daily lives we seek to live a SENT life but we're too worried about how we're going to eat, where we will sleep, what we will do, and who will come in contact with.***

- Jesus shows the disciples and us here in the text that we must totally depend on Him.

- I find it interesting and important to point out that the items that the disciples are told to take with them, are identical to what God ***did tell*** the Hebrews to take with them as they fled Egypt.

- ***It's possible that what is in mind here is that there is a New Exodus under a greater Moses.***

- Scholar James Edwards said '***True service of Jesus is characterized by dependence on Jesus, and dependence on Jesus is signified by going where Jesus sends despite material shortfalls and unanswered questions.***'

- When we truly live a sent lifestyle, we are to no longer be concerned of the material things. But to Trust solely in God.

Truth #3: *Linger as long as You're Accepted. (V. 10-11)*

- These next two verses and the application that follows is quite interesting.
 - 'And he said to them, "Whenever you enter a house, stay there until you depart from there. **11** And if any place will not receive you and they

will not listen to you, when you leave, shake off the dust that is on your feet as a testimony against them.”

- *The main message that Jesus is seeking to get across to His disciples here, is that they are to go where they are welcomed and if they are rejected, then it's time to move on.*
 - *In other words, don't stay where you are not accepted seeking to force the Bible down someone's throat who rejects the Gospel.*
- Lingering where you're accepted as you live a SENT life literally means to not disrespect others as you build relationships with them.
 - *In the context of the ancient world 'inns' or what we would call as 'hotels', were very dangerous and generally when folks traveled, they would seek to try and stay in people's homes.*
 - The disciples of Jesus are not exception to this.
- I believe there are **2** things that Jesus wanted His disciples to know about lingering in locations where the Gospel was accepted and they could effectively minister.
- *Stay in Good Standing with the Community. (V. 10)*
 - ‘And he said to them, “Whenever you enter a house, stay there until you depart from there.’

- *Because Jesus gave the disciples to cast out demons, heal people and preach the Gospel, Jesus knew that it would be likely that as people saw their ministry, they could possibly get invited to stay in a nicer home or location.*
 - In other words, they would have the opportunity to upgrade their stay, which in turn, could offend their host and limit their Gospel ministry in the town.
 - After all, they weren't their own personal accommodations.
- *I think this is a concept we would all do well to apply.*
 - This doesn't mean that we bow down to the community or don't stand for our beliefs, it simply means that we stay in good standing with our community in every opportunity.
 - *But, this starts in the Church. Why would our community want anything to do with us if all they see us do in the Church is argue and not get along?*
- *'eager to maintain the unity of the Spirit in the bond of peace.' Ephesians 4:3*
 - Jesus does not want the disciples burning down potential Gospel bridges, simply because they are offered somewhere else to stay.

- JM said *‘After they accepted one initial invitation, they were to decline all others. Doing so would distinguish them from traveling false teachers who made a career of going from house to house, seeking money and taking advantage of the resources of unsuspecting hosts.’*
 - *As there are in our day and were in the context of this passage, there are people who will hide behind the Gospel to get what they want and desire.*
- This is why the Apostle Paul said this to young Timothy in 2nd Timothy 3:6:
 - ‘For among them are those who creep into households and capture weak women, burdened with sins and led astray by various passions,’
- ***We don’t live a SENT life in order to be comfortable.***
 - *Don’t potentially burn a Gospel bridge in your community because of your differences and opinions.*
- ***Integrity as we live a SENT life is imperative here.***
- ***Slip Out when Rejected. (V. 11)***
 - During Jesus ministry He had been rejected time and time again and ultimately due to this rejection He would die on the cross for our sins.
 - This is why He tells the disciples this:
 - ‘And if any place will not receive you and they will not listen to you, when you leave, shake off the dust that is on your feet as a testimony against them.’
 - ***As those who minister and share the Gospel, we are to display discernment on when it is time for us to leave.***
 - The phrase *‘shaking the dust off one’s feet’* was a traditional Jewish way of expressing scorn toward Gentiles.
 - ***But if the people that the disciples were ministering to didn’t want to receive the message and reject it, they would be guilty of what we later find written in Hebrews 10:29.***
 - ‘How much worse punishment, do you think, will be deserved by the one who has trampled underfoot the Son of God, and has profaned the blood of the covenant by which he was sanctified, and has outraged the Spirit of grace?’
 - ***In other words, I truly believe that Jesus was reiterating that you can’t MAKE anyone believe the Gospel.***
 - If they are to reject, that is on them.
 - You can’t save anyone.

- ***Your job in living a SENT lifestyle is to expose people to the Gospel. But whether or not they choose to accept, is solely and totally up to them.***

- If they were to reject the Gospel, they could go to another town that may be receptive to the Gospel.

- So this morning, so far this morning we've seen that we've been saved to be sent in the following ways:

- **Truth #1: *Lean into His Authority.* (V. 7)**
- **Truth #2: *Leave your personal Accommodations behind.* (V. 8-9)**
- **Truth #3: *Linger as long as You're Accepted.* (V. 10-11)**

Truth #4: *Listen to Your Assignment.* (V. 12-13)

- Now the disciples go out and live out the assignment that Jesus has given them based on what they learned from seeing Him do when they spent time with Him.
 - ***The Disciples knew how to listen to Jesus based on the example that they saw Jesus live on a daily basis for the time we spent with Him.***
 - We, like the disciples, must not forget the example that Jesus gives us as we

live a SENT life is to mirror what we have seen Jesus do in scripture.

- ‘So they went out and proclaimed that people should repent. **13** And they cast out many demons and anointed with oil many who were sick and healed them.’

- ***The disciples, though they messed up many times just like we do, give us great insight on how we are to live a sent life. They give this example in 2 ways.***

- ***Preach Repentance.* (V. 12)**

- ‘So they went out and proclaimed that people should repent.’
- Far too many sermons and Gospel presentations that I hear today have gotten away from the idea and theology of repentance.

- ***According to Acts 2:38, the word repentance was the first word out of John, Jesus and the Apostles.***

- ‘And Peter said to them, “Repent and be baptized every one of you in the name of Jesus Christ for the forgiveness of your sins, and you will receive the gift of the Holy Spirit.’ Acts 2:38

- ***If repentance was important to Jesus and the apostles, then shouldn't it be***

important to us when we share the Gospel?

- The lack of sharing of repentance in Gospel presentations has sent many people to hell thinking they are saved, without ever being told they need to allow Christ to change them, and that starts with repentance.
- ***Perform the Commands of God. (V. 13)***
 - ‘And they cast out many demons and anointed with oil many who were sick and healed them.’
 - In living a sent life, we must perform the actions and commands that Jesus modeled for us and also gave us.
 - ***The disciples, like us, were to go out and preach the same message that Jesus and John the Baptist did.***
 - We have the privilege of doing the same thing, are we doing it?

Conclusion:

- As I close this morning, I want to remind that if you are saved, Jesus did not save you so that you can be comfortably seated on the sidelines.
 - ***The question you need to honestly answer about yourself today: Am I living a SENT life? Or am I simply living seated watching others be sent by the same God that I claim to be saved by.***

- ***We have folks that are in our Church family today that God is sending halfway across the world in a few short months.***
 - We have people here today who have already gone halfway across the world in serving Jesus.
- ***Please hear me out this morning. I am NOT saying that in order to live a SENT lifestyle that you have to go halfway across the world.***
 - God calls different people to different places.
 - ***But what I am asking you to do, is to live a SENT lifestyle in the hear and know.***
 - Listen to the Holy Spirit telling you to go across the street.
 - Listen to the Holy Spirit telling you to pay the way for a child to go to camp.
 - Listen to the Holy Spirit telling you to teach a SS class.
 - Listen to the Holy Spirit and the commands and example of Christ Jesus to live a SENT life.
- ***Living a SENT life is far more glorifying to God than living a SEATED and comfortable life.***
 - ***Truth #1: Lean into His Authority. (V. 7)***
 - ***Truth #2: Leave your personal Accommodations behind. (V. 8-9)***
 - ***Truth #3: Linger as long as You're Accepted. (V. 10-11)***
 - ***Truth #4: Listen to Your Assignment. (V. 12-13)***