

MAR

Mk. 6:7-13
Wk 20

General:

- What is something you've gone through that you wouldn't necessarily want to repeat, but you're grateful for what it produced in you?
- What do you feel like you would need in order to be fully equipped to share your faith with someone? How much of that is actually necessary before you can begin?
- In a culture that prizes independence, why do you think following Jesus and participating in His mission were never intended to be purely individual pursuits?
- Pastor Chip emphasized that sending them two by two also strengthened their witness. Why does the credibility of the gospel involve more than simply what one person says?
- What's the difference between possessing power yourself and exercising authority that has been entrusted to you by someone else? between having authority vs power
- Jesus specifically tells them not to take bread, a bag, or money. Why do you think He intentionally removed some of the things that could have made them feel more secure?
- What are you most likely to depend on for security, confidence, or success before recognizing your dependence on Jesus?
- Jesus tells the disciples to shake the dust from their feet when a community refuses to receive them. What does that instruction reveal about the seriousness of how people respond to the message of Jesus?

Take Home 1: *Jesus didn't send the disciples out to speak their minds, but to deliver His message (Mk. 6:7)*

- The disciples were sent by Jesus rather than going out on their own initiative. How should knowing who sent them shape both what they said and how they said it?
- What's the difference between sharing a strongly held Christian opinion and faithfully communicating the message Jesus has actually entrusted to us?
- Christians sometimes speak confidently "for Jesus" on issues where sincere believers disagree. How can we tell when we're proclaiming His message and when we're simply attaching His name to our own convictions?

Take Home 2: *Don't confuse God's provision with our preparation or resources (Mk. 6:8-9)*

- How might living in a relatively affluent, resource-rich culture make it harder for us to understand what genuine dependence on God looks like?
- Why do you think God sometimes allows us to experience need rather than immediately giving us everything required to feel secure?
- Where are you most tempted to look at the resources God has provided (money, ability, relationships, experience, planning) and begin treating the provision as though it were the source?

Take Home 3: *Realize there is an urgency to the message (Mk. 6:11)*

- When you look at the way you live, is there any sense of urgency about helping others know Jesus? Why or why not?
- If rejecting Jesus really does carry eternal consequences, how should that affect the way you view the people you regularly work with, live near, or spend time with?
- What is the difference between having urgency about the gospel and trying to pressure or manipulate someone into believing?

Take Home 4: *Repentance is not optional (Mk. 6:12)*

- Pastor Chip described repentance as turning from our way and choosing the way of Jesus. Have you actually made that turn, or are there areas where you still want Jesus to follow your way instead?
- If Jesus truly has authority over your life, what is something you would stop doing, start doing, or surrender to Him?