

Jesus Teaches The Twelve

Matthew 10:5-15

Key Verse: 10:6, 7

“As you go, proclaim this message: ‘The kingdom of heaven has come near.’”

1. Read verses 5-6. To whom did Jesus send the apostles (disciples) on this first training mission? What limits did he set? Why do you think he set these limits? What does this tell us about God's compassionate heart for his people and Jesus' way of making disciples?

2. Read verses 7-8. What message were they to proclaim? How did they proclaim the kingdom of heaven in words and in actions? How does this mission resemble Jesus' ministry? (Mt 1:17; 4:23; 9:35)?

3. Read verses 9-10. Why were they not to take money or extra clothes? What does it mean that the "worker is worth his keep?" (10b) What does it mean to "freely give and freely receive?" (8b) What should be a disciple's attitude toward material things?

4. Read verse 11-14. What should be their initial strategy in each town? How can they find a worthy person and a home deserving of God's blessing? Why should they stay in one house? What is God's blessing?

5. What should be done about a person, a home or a town that does not welcome Jesus' disciple? Why is it a serious mistake to reject the disciple/apostle whom God has sent? (15, 40)

6. What lessons (principles) should Jesus' apostles learn from this first training mission? How is this sending out different from the sending out of the apostles after training is complete? (Mt 28:19-20)