

Sermon Discussion Questions

“MOVING OUT IN MISSION”



LOOKOUT
MOUNTAIN
PRESBYTERIAN
CHURCH

Discuss

January is often the month when we re-focus on our priorities after the rush and busy-ness of the holidays. We make resolutions, clean out our closets, and perhaps, determine to live a more simple life. In this passage in Mark, Jesus gives his twelve disciples a set of definite instructions as he sends them out on mission, making clear what their priorities are to be.

- 1) The specifications of what they were to take certainly give new meaning to the oft-given advice to “pack lightly.”
 - Walking around with only the clothes on their backs and a walking stick in one hand, the disciples were forced to do what?
 - Read Hosea 1:2. God used Hosea to give the people of Israel a visible representation of a present reality. What did the disciples communicate to those they preached to as they came before them with nothing packed for their journey? Consider what they were showing their listeners about God and what they were showing their listeners about themselves.
 - Were these instructions meant only for the disciples on this particular mission, or are they to be applied in some way to others who go out on mission as well? You might want to consider 1 Tim. 5:17-18 and 1 Cor. 9:13-14 as you discuss this.
- 2) As we know from Mark 1:4, John the Baptist proclaimed a “baptism of repentance for the forgiveness of sins,” and Jesus began his own ministry by declaring that the Kingdom of God was at hand: “Repent and believe the good news.” (Mark 1:14) In this passage, we are told that the disciples “preached that people should repent.” (v. 12)
 - What does it mean to “repent?”
 - Why do you think repentance was emphasized over and over again during Jesus’ ministry on earth?
 - What role should repentance play in our lives today?
- 3) In verse 11, Jesus tells the disciples what to do if no one will welcome them or listen to them. Take a look at Matthew 10:14-15 for an additional detail Matthew gives when telling this story.
 - Other cultures might say, “I wash my hands of this,” to convey the idea of “shaking the dust off your feet.” What did it mean, then, when the disciples did this? What did it symbolize?
 - What did Jesus make clear to the disciples by giving this direction?
 - How should we handle rejection when we share the Gospel?

DATE: January 28, 2018

SPEAKER: Brian/Jared

SERIES: Gospel of Mark

PASSAGE: Mark 6:7-13

Pray

Heavenly Father,

If we should suffer need and be in poverty, make our hearts prize your love, know it, and be controlled by it.

When we are afraid of evils to come, remind us that in ourselves we find insufficiency and no rest, but in Christ, there is satisfaction and peace.

Help us to remember that while we ourselves are weak and unable to do good, in Christ we have the ability to do all things.

For all this, we give you great thanks and praise, praying in the name of our Savior, Jesus. Amen.

adapted from “Contentment,” Valley of Vision, (Banner of Truth, 2005), p. 163

PRAY FOR HOME MISSIONS

Widows Harvest

PRAY FOR WORLD MISSIONS

Michael and Kim Essenburg
serving with OCSI in Japan