

17- Everybody is a Missionary Mark 6:6-13

We as Southern Baptist have a great history of being a missionary people. This next week on December 9, 2010 there will be a crop of new missionaries commissioned to go into the world as our missionaries. So what does this mean to us? First it challenges us to give so these that have given up their life to serve others can do so as we support them. May I suggest to you that it also challenges us in another way? It challenges us to see that we are all missionaries; no, not on the foreign field but in the field of harvest around us. Jesus said, **John 4:35 Say not ye, There are yet four months, and then cometh harvest? behold, I say unto you, Lift up your eyes, and look on the fields; for they are white already to harvest.**

Do you want to be part of something bigger than you are, bigger than we are as a collection of believers, bigger than we are capable of. Beloved, may I suggest to you that the work of being a missionary where we are in a grand calling. Christians who do not answer the call to be on mission in their world will have little if any positive impact on the world.

I- Sent Forth:

Mark 6:6 And he marvelled because of their unbelief. And he went round about the villages, teaching. 7 And he called unto him the twelve, and began to send them forth by two and two;

Jesus sends the disciples out in pairs to go tell the world about salvation. They were fishermen, tax collectors among other things. Notice what it says in **Acts 4:13 Now when they saw the boldness of Peter and John, and perceived that they were unlearned and ignorant men, they marvelled; and they took knowledge of them, that they had been with Jesus.**

John 20:21 Then said Jesus to them again, Peace be unto you: as my Father hath sent me, even so send I you.

Do you see yourself as a missionary? Remember the words of Jesus in **Matthew 28:19-20 Go ye therefore, and teach all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Ghost: 20 Teaching them to observe all things whatsoever I have commanded you: and, lo, I am with you always, even unto the end of the world. Amen.**

So what qualification do you have to have to be a missionary in this world, in this community? First, is to have a relationship with God through Christ Jesus? Second, is to be willing to be used by God.

II- He Equipped Them:

How did they accomplish things? How can we? Beloved we can only do it with the equipping of God, by God's power.

Mark 6:7b ...and gave them power over unclean spirits; 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. God provided for them on the fly, so to speak. A simple message did not need any fancy equipment. Their job was not to change minds but to present the message of hope, love, and forgiveness.

Jesus told us with Him all things are possible. **John 15:5 I am the vine, ye are the branches: He that abideth in me, and I in him, the same bringeth forth much fruit: for without me ye can do nothing.**

I cannot tell you where God has put your heart but I think God's Word tells us we are all called to go, some around the world, some across the country, some next door or down the street or road. You do not have to know the next step because, after all, the next step is realizing that you are called.

III- The Reception and Results:

Not everyone will be receptive to the message. However, I think our fear many times is that no one will be receptive to it. This is also not true. Jesus told the ones He sent out that they would be received in some places but in some they would not. **Mark 6:10 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 Gomorrhah in the day of judgment, than for that city.**

Within these verses is also another motivation for us to be on mission for God. That is the fact that there is a judgment coming. Notice they went and preached. **Mark 6:12 And they went out, and preached that men should repent. 13 And they cast out many devils, and anointed with oil many that were sick, and healed them.**

The question is will it be worth it? May I say it will for the ones that come to know Christ? Have you realized that you are a missionary, send as sure as those in the darkest corner of the world? Sent because there is a judgment coming and death is stalking all men.