

Mark

Lesson 8

Chapter 6:6-13

Participant Guide

Leader Guide Bible Studies

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Jesus Sends Out the Twelve

Lesson 8, Mark 6:6-13

Opening Prayer

Introduction

The account of Jesus sending out his disciples is in Matthew, Mark, and Luke. Luke also includes a later account of Jesus sending out seventy-two disciples. Mark's account of Jesus sending out the twelve disciples is only seven-and one-half verses long. By comparison, Matthew's account is 42 verses and is one of Matthew's five great sermons of Jesus. Matthew includes the most complete report, but Luke includes additional details in the account of the seventy-two. Nearly all of Mark is in Matthew and Luke word for word.

In this lesson, we will study Jesus' instructions to the twelve and the seventy-two merged into one continuous account.

Jesus Sends Out the Twelve, with merged accounts from Matthew and Luke.

Mk 6:6 Then Jesus went around teaching from village to village.

Mt 10:1 He called his twelve disciples to him and gave them authority to drive out evil spirits and to heal every disease and sickness Lk 9:2, and he sent them out [two by two] to preach the kingdom of God and to heal the sick.

Mt 10:2 These are the names of the twelve apostles: first, Simon (who is called Peter) and his brother Andrew; James son of Zebedee, and his brother John;

Mt 10:3 Philip and Bartholomew; Thomas and Matthew, the tax collector; James son of Alphaeus, and Thaddaeus; Mt 10:4 Simon the Zealot and Judas Iscariot, who betrayed him.

Lk 10:1 After this, the Lord appointed seventy-two others and sent them two by two ahead of him to every town and place where he was about to go.

Mt 10:5 These twelve Jesus sent out with the following instructions: "Do not go among the Gentiles or enter any town of the Samaritans. Mt 10:6 Go rather to the lost sheep of Israel.

Lk 10:2 He told them, "The harvest is plentiful, but the workers are few. Ask the Lord of the harvest, therefore, to send out workers into his harvest field. Lk 10:3 Go! I am sending you out like lambs among wolves.

Mt 10:7 As you go, preach this message: 'The kingdom of heaven is near.' Mt 10:8 Heal the sick, raise the dead, cleanse those who have leprosy, drive out demons. Freely you have received, freely give. Mk 6:8 "Take nothing for the journey except a staff—no bread, no bag, no money in your belts. Mt 10:9 Do not take along any gold or silver or copper in your belts Mk 6:9 Wear sandals but not an extra tunic; Mt 10:10b for the worker is worth his keep.

1. What message were the disciples were to proclaim?

2. How would the people know the disciples' message was true?
3. Why would Jesus send out his disciples without material possessions?
4. In what ways might these instructions be applicable today – or not!?

Continue reading the sending instructions.

Lk 10:8 “When you enter a town and are welcomed, eat what is set before you.

Mt 10:11 “Whatever town or village you enter, search for some worthy person there and stay at his house until you leave. Mk 6:10 Whenever you enter a house, stay there until you leave that town. Mt 10:12 As you enter the home, give it your greeting [Lk 10:5 first say, ‘Peace to this house].

Mt 10:13 If the home is deserving, let your peace rest on it; if it is not, let your peace return to you.

Lk 10:7 Stay in that house, eating and drinking whatever they give you, for the worker deserves his wages. Do not move around from house to house.

Lk 10:10 But when you enter a town and are not welcomed, go into its streets and say,

Lk 10:11 ‘Even the dust of your town that sticks to our feet we wipe off against you. Yet be sure of this: The kingdom of God is near.’

Mt 10:14 If anyone will not welcome you or listen to your words, shake the dust off your feet [as a testimony against them] when you leave that home or town.

Mt 10:15 I tell you the truth, it will be more bearable for Sodom and Gomorrah on the day of judgment than for that town.

Lk 10:13 “Woe to you, Korazin! Woe to you, Bethsaida! For if the miracles that were performed in you had been performed in Tyre and Sidon, they would have repented long ago, sitting in sackcloth and ashes.

Lk 10:14 But it will be more bearable for Tyre and Sidon at the judgment than for you.

Lk 10:15 And you, Capernaum, will you be lifted up to the skies? No, you will go down to the depths.

5. What made a home suitable for disciples to stay there?
6. What do Korazin, Bethsaida, and Capernaum have in common to be singled out and condemned by Jesus?

Lk 10:16 “He who listens to you listens to me; he who rejects you rejects me; but he who rejects me rejects him who sent me.”

Mt 10:16 I am sending you out like sheep among wolves. Therefore, be as shrewd as snakes and as innocent as doves.

Mt 10:17 "Be on your guard against men; they will hand you over to the local councils and flog you in their synagogues.

Mt 10:18 On my account you will be brought before governors and kings as witnesses to them and to the Gentiles.

Mt 10:19 But when they arrest you, do not worry about what to say or how to say it. At that time you will be given what to say, ^{Mt 10:20} for it will not be you speaking, but the Spirit of your Father speaking through you.

Mt 10:21 "Brother will betray brother to death, and a father his child; children will rebel against their parents and have them put to death.

Mt 10:22 All men will hate you because of me, but he who stands firm to the end will be saved.

Mt 10:23 When you are persecuted in one place, flee to another. I tell you the truth, you will not finish going through the cities of Israel before the Son of Man comes.

Mt 10:24 "A student is not above his teacher, nor a servant above his master. ^{Mt 10:25} It is enough for the student to be like his teacher, and the servant like his master. If the head of the house has been called Beelzebub, how much more the members of his household!

Mt 10:26 "So do not be afraid of them. There is nothing concealed that will not be disclosed, or hidden that will not be made known.

Mt 10:27 What I tell you in the dark, speak in the daylight; what is whispered in your ear, proclaim from the roofs.

Mt 10:28 Do not be afraid of those who kill the body but cannot kill the soul. Rather, be afraid of the One who can destroy both soul and body in hell.

Mt 10:29 Are not two sparrows sold for a penny? Yet not one of them will fall to the ground apart from the will of your Father.

Mt 10:30 And even the very hairs of your head are all numbered.

Mt 10:31 So don't be afraid; you are worth more than many sparrows.

Mt 10:32 "Whoever acknowledges me before men, I will also acknowledge him before my Father in heaven.

Mt 10:33 But whoever disowns me before men, I will disown him before my Father in heaven.

Lk 10:16 "He who listens to you listens to me; he who rejects you rejects me; but he who rejects me rejects him who sent me."

7. What hardships does Jesus tell his disciples to expect? Why should they expect this?

8. What comfort does Jesus give to his disciples in the face of hardship?

9. To whom does Matthew 10:28 refer?

Mt 10:34 “Do not suppose that I have come to bring peace to the earth. I did not come to bring peace, but a sword.

Mt 10:35 For I have come to turn “ ‘a man against his father, a daughter against her mother, a daughter-in-law against her mother-in-law — Mt 10:36 a man’s enemies will be the members of his own household.’

Mt 10:37 “Anyone who loves his father or mother more than me is not worthy of me; anyone who loves his son or daughter more than me is not worthy of me; Mt 10:38 and anyone who does not take his cross and follow me is not worthy of me.

Mt 10:39 Whoever finds his life will lose it, and whoever loses his life for my sake will find it.

Mt 10:40 “He who receives you receives me, and he who receives me receives the one who sent me.

Mt 10:41 Anyone who receives a prophet because he is a prophet will receive a prophet’s reward, and anyone who receives a righteous man because he is a righteous man will receive a righteous man’s reward.

Mt 10:42 And if anyone gives even a cup of cold water to one of these little ones because he is my disciple, I tell you the truth, he will certainly not lose his reward.”

10. The closing comments of Jesus to the disciples are among the difficult to understand and seem counter to our view of God’s love and grace.

- a. What do you think Jesus meant by “I did not come to bring peace, but a sword.”
- b. What do you think Jesus meant by Matthew 10:35-36 “For I have come to turn “ ‘a man against his father, a daughter against her mother, a daughter-in-law against her mother-in-law — ³⁶ a man’s enemies will be the members of his own household.”

11. What does it mean to take up your cross and follow Jesus?

12. What some acts of the saints Jesus mentions?

Read the epilog accounts of the sending of the disciples.

Mk 6:12 They went out and preached that people should repent.

Mk 6:13 They drove out many demons and anointed many sick people with oil and healed them.

Lk 9:6 So they set out and went from village to village, preaching the gospel and healing people everywhere.

Lk 10:17 The seventy-two returned with joy and said, “Lord, even the demons submit to us in your name.”

Lk 10:18 He replied, "I saw Satan fall like lightning from heaven. Lk 10:19 I have given you authority to trample on snakes and scorpions and to overcome all the power of the enemy; nothing will harm you. Lk 10:20 However, do not rejoice that the spirits submit to you, but rejoice that your names are written in heaven."

Lk 10:21 At that time Jesus, full of joy through the Holy Spirit, said, "I praise you, Father, Lord of heaven and earth, because you have hidden these things from the wise and learned, and revealed them to little children. Yes, Father, for this was your good pleasure. Lk 10:22 All things have been committed to me by my Father. No one knows who the Son is except the Father, and no one knows who the Father is except the Son and those to whom the Son chooses to reveal him."

Lk 10:23 Then he turned to his disciples and said privately, "Blessed are the eyes that see what you see. Lk 10:24 For I tell you that many prophets and kings wanted to see what you see but did not see it, and to hear what you hear but did not hear it."

Lk 9:7 Now Herod the tetrarch heard about all that was going on. And he was perplexed, because some were saying that John had been raised from the dead, Lk 9:8 others that Elijah had appeared, and still others that one of the prophets of long ago had come back to life.

Lk 9:9 But Herod said, "I beheaded John. Who, then, is this I hear such things about?" And he tried to see him.

Discuss

1. How did the disciples' first mission trip go without Jesus being present?
2. Jesus affirmed their joy. But he reminded them about an even greater joy they should always have in their hearts. What is that?
3. How is the gospel message so simple that even a little child can understand it?
4. What is Jesus saying in verse 22? What comfort and assurance does this give you?
5. Review the teaching of election, or predestination. How is that taught in verse 22? What comfort does this give you?

6. What is the rest of the story about Herod - how did John testify against Herod? What did Herod's sin lead him to do?

Apply

7. Where do you think Jesus is calling you to serve?

8. What is your story about Jesus in your life?

9. Compare how the disciples spread the gospel during Jesus' day to how it is spread today where miracles are noticeably absent in our churches.

Closing Prayer

Dear Father in Heaven,

Thank you for your blessings this day. We also give you thanks for the trials that might come this day. We pray that people would turn to you in their anxiety and need to find your peace and provision. We pray for your guidance and forgiveness. We pray that our love for Jesus and praise for Him are on our lips in our comings and goings.

Amen