

Going Into Difficult Places

Let's Go
Mark 6:7-13
6-13-21

I. Go as a Team.

Mark 6:7 – “And he called the twelve and began to send them out two by two, and gave them authority over the unclean spirits.”

1. Safer and wiser.
2. Ministry is better in relationship.
Ecclesiastes 4:9 – “Two are better than one, because they have a good reward for their toil.”
3. Can use different spiritual gifts.

1 Peter 4:10 – “As each has received a gift, use it to serve one another, as good stewards of God's varied grace.”

II. Go Light.

Mark 6:8-9 – “He charged them to take nothing for their journey except a staff—no bread, no bag, no money in their belts—but to wear sandals and not put on two tunics.”

Benefits:

1. More generosity.
1 Timothy 6:17-18 – “...God richly provides us with everything to enjoy...do good...be rich in good works...be generous and ready to share, thus storing up treasure...”
2. Less stress.
Luke 21:34 – “Jesus said, ‘Be careful, or your hearts will be weighed down with...the anxieties of life, and that day will close on you suddenly like a trap.’”
3. Less distraction.
Luke 8:14 – “And as for what fell among the thorns, they are those who hear, but as they go on their way they are choked by the cares and riches and pleasures of life, and their fruit does not mature.”

4. More agile.

2 Timothy 2:4 – “No soldier gets entangled in civilian pursuits, since his aim is to please the one who enlisted him.”

Acts 2:44-47 – “...all who believed were together and had all things in common...they were selling their possessions...as any had need. (they were)...attending the temple together...breaking bread in their homes...(they were) praising God...”

III. Go and Stay Where You are Welcomed.

Mark 6:10-11 – “And he said to them, ‘Whenever you enter a house, stay there until you depart from there. And if any place will not receive you and they will not listen to you, when you leave, shake off the dust that is on your feet as a testimony against them.’”

IV. Go Proclaiming the Gospel.

Mark 6:12-13 – “So they went out and proclaimed that people should repent. And they cast out many demons and anointed with oil many who were sick and healed them.”

In proclaiming the Gospel we:

- Defeat demonic strongholds.
- Care for the sick.
- Proclaim repentance and faith.

“Repentance is a grace of God’s spirit whereby a sinner is inwardly humbled and visibly reformed. - Thomas Watson (1620-1686)

Going Deeper This Week

1. Have you served in any sort of apprenticeship? What do you remember about the first time you did the work on your own?
2. What are the advantages of working as a team in mission work? What are the dangers of going alone?
3. How can Jesus' restrictions on what the apostles should take with them be applied today?
4. What are the advantages to having few possessions? What are the advantages to having abundant possessions? What are the dangers of either situation?
5. What are the advantages to staying in someone's home on the mission field, as compared to staying in paid lodging or on a missionary compound?
6. What might we do or say as an equivalent to the custom of shaking the dust off one's feet when leaving an unreceptive person, group, or town?
7. How would you define *repentance* to someone who had never been in a church?
8. What are the connections between the story of Jesus' sending the Twelve on their mission and the beheading of John the Baptist?
9. What is the true definition of *success* regarding missions? What, then, is the nature of failure?