Mrk19 - The Simple Gospel - Mark 6:7-13

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In our <u>last message</u> – we <u>LEFT JESUS</u> Being <u>COMPLETELY REJECTED</u> – in his home town of <u>Nazareth</u>

The **shocking last line** of last week's **text** was

Mark 6:6 (NLT)

6 And he was amazed at their unbelief. Then Jesus went from village to village, teaching the people.

The **Amazing Unbelief** – of the **People** of **Nazareth**

Was <u>THE SIGN</u> – for <u>Jesus</u> to <u>MOVE ON</u> with the <u>Good News</u> To the <u>other villages</u> in the <u>Galilee</u>

<u>Now today</u> – <u>AS JESUS</u> is going – <u>village to village</u> & <u>Teaching the people</u>

He is going to <u>SEND OUT</u> his <u>Disciples</u> to <u>SHARE</u> the <u>SAME Message</u>

We'll call it - The SIMPLE GOSPEL

Let's Pray

What **<u>STRUCK ME</u>** about this <u>text</u> this <u>week</u>

Is the <u>SIMPLE GOSPEL</u> that <u>Jesus taught</u> His Disciples to <u>SHARE</u>

DO YOU THINK that WE - As a Christian Culture

SHARE the GOSPEL in the SAME WAY that Jesus & the Disciples did?

I'm <u>afraid</u> – to <u>some large extent</u> - we've <u>turned</u> the <u>SIMPLE GOSPEL</u> that <u>Jesus</u> shared

into a very different - ME-CENTERED GOSPEL

The <u>ME-CENTERED</u> <u>Gospel</u> is Come to Jesus, and he will GIVE YOU what you NEED

<u>When we</u> – started <u>PRESENTING</u> the <u>Gospel Message</u> – <u>Based</u> on <u>what</u> people - <u>FELT they NEEDED</u>

It <u>IMPLIED</u> that <u>Jesus</u> wanted to <u>be</u> <u>PART</u> of <u>THEIR PLAN</u> – <u>FOR THEIR LIFE</u>

AND - it IMPLIED that Jesus would FULFILL a PART of THEIR LIFE'S PLAN that was Missing

The **only problem** is – you **NEVER SEE THAT** – In the **Bible**

THERE ARE wonderful Promises - IN this Life

that <u>COME THRU</u> our <u>Salvation</u> & <u>THRU</u> our <u>Abiding in Christ</u>

<u>IN FACT</u> – there are <u>over</u> <u>250 Separate Promises</u> - in <u>JUST</u> the <u>N.T.</u>

<u>BUT</u> – the <u>SIMPLE GOSPEL</u> Message <u>Repeated over & over</u> again in the <u>Bible</u> – *is this;*

Repent of your sins - and turn to God for Salvation through faith in Jesus Christ

All <u>THE PROMISES</u> in the <u>Bible</u> Are <u>TRUE</u> <u>AS WE</u> continue <u>TO LIVE IN CHRIST</u>

But **they** are **NEVER USED** – <u>AS Motivation</u>

<u>When Jesus</u> – or the <u>Disciples</u> <u>Proclaim</u> the <u>SIMPLE GOSPEL</u>

The <u>SIMPLE GOSPEL</u> - <u>PROCLAIMED</u> by <u>Jesus</u> & the <u>Disciples</u> is <u>ALWAYS some form</u> of this;

Turn <u>FROM</u> your sin (repent) - And turn <u>TO</u> God for Salvation through faith in Jesus Christ alone <u>So OFTEN</u> we <u>begin</u> our "<u>Sharing of the Gospel</u>" <u>by talking</u> about a <u>dozen</u> different <u>things</u>

<u>Things</u> we <u>think</u> might <u>BE IMPORTANT</u> <u>to</u> the <u>person</u> we're <u>talking</u> to

But OFTEN - The REAL ISSUE

The <u>Life-Changing Message</u> of the <u>SIMPLE GOSPEL</u> - <u>NEVER Actually comes up</u>

MAYBE because <u>we</u> are <u>MORE FOCUSED</u> on <u>what</u> we <u>THINK</u> that <u>person needs</u>

than we are on the SIMPLE GOSPEL Message

<u>WHAT IF</u> we were to <u>just</u> "<u>LOOK FOR A WAY</u>" <u>try</u> to "<u>find a place</u>" in the <u>conversation</u>

Were we could say;

You know, the truth is; The Bible says;

We must all - Repent of our sins - and turn to God for salvation through faith in Jesus Christ

Because - That REALLY IS the SIMPLE GOSPEL Message When John the Baptist was preparing the way for Jesus

Matthew 3:2 says THIS was his message (NLT); 2 "Repent of your sins and turn to God, for the Kingdom of Heaven is near" (meaning in the person of Jesus Christ)

- & <u>he says</u> the <u>SAME THING</u> again in <u>Mat 3:11</u> - & again in <u>Mat 4:17</u>
- & **THRU-OUT** the **GOSPELS**, **Including** from **Jesus** the **message REMAINED** - *This Simple*
- Repent of your sins and turn to God for salvation through faith in Jesus Christ

In the <u>VERY FIRST SERMON preached</u> in the <u>N.T. Church</u> <u>BY</u> the Apostle Peter

in response to the pouring out of the Holy Spirit – in Acts Ch 2

<u>Acts 2:37 says (ESV)</u> 37 Now when they heard this (what Peter was saying) they were cut to the heart, and said to Peter and the rest of the apostles, "Brothers, what shall we do?"

& <u>THEN COMES</u> the <u>SIMPLE GOSPEL</u> <u>At the end</u> of the <u>Very First Sermon</u> of the <u>NT church</u>

Acts 2:38 (ESV)

38 And Peter said to them, "Repent and be baptized every one of you in the name of Jesus Christ for the forgiveness of your sins, and you will receive the gift of the Holy Spirit."

13 TIMES in the NT – this SIMPLE GOSPEL Message is used;

Repent of your sins and turn to God for salvation . . .

& - <u>More times</u> than we <u>can count</u> the <u>Bible makes it clear</u>

GOD'S ONLY METHOD of Salvation is;

Through Faith in Jesus Christ

<u>Do you think</u> there's a <u>Chance</u> <u>that</u> us <u>ADJUSTING</u> the <u>Gospel Message</u>

to IMPLY that Jesus will <u>GIVE PEOPLE</u> something <u>THEY FEEL THEY NEED</u> – <u>has back-fired?</u>

Because – HASN'T IT CREATED Christians

who are <u>always</u> <u>LOOKING</u> for Jesus to <u>GIVE THEM</u> something?

& then <u>TURNING AWAY</u> when he <u>DOESN'T give them</u> <u>what</u> they <u>EXPECT</u>?

So - Let me <u>SHOW</u> you - <u>THE SIMPLE GOSPEL</u> in the <u>First & Next to Last Vs's</u> of our <u>Text Today</u>

Mark 6:7 & 12 (NLT)

7 And he <u>called</u> his twelve disciples together and began <u>sending</u> them out <u>two by two</u>, <u>giving them authority</u> to cast out evil spirits.

. . .

12 So the disciples went out, telling <u>everyone they met</u> to <u>repent</u> <u>of their sins and turn to God</u>.

THIS is the BEGINNING

of the <u>FOLLOWERS</u> of <u>Christ</u> <u>Taking</u> the <u>SIMPLE GOSPEL</u> – <u>To the WORLD</u>

Let's look closely at it - Again - Mark 6:7 (NLT)

7 And he <u>called</u> his twelve disciples together and began <u>sending</u> them out <u>two by two</u>, <u>giving them authority</u> to cast out evil spirits.

Jesus <u>CALLED His Disciples</u> to <u>Himself</u> & then he <u>SENT Them Out</u> – <u>On His Behalf</u>

To SHARE – The **SIMPLE GOSPEL** with **everyone** they **met**

& WE ALSO – have Been Called

TO Jesus FOR Salvation - & then

<u>SENT OUT on HIS behalf</u> – <u>WITH his authority</u>

To **share** - **THE SIMPLE GOSPEL** with **people** in our **lives**

Repent of your sins and turn to God for Salvation through Faith in Jesus Christ

That is Truly THE GOOD NEWS - Straight From The BIBLE

Again - Back in Mark 6:7

FIRST Jesus Calls us to Himself & THEN he sends us OUT – <u>TWO-BY-TWO</u>

Two-By-Two is CRITICAL isn't it?

In Following Jesus – there are NO SOLO MISSIONS

Get <u>Word-By-Mail PHONE APP</u> - Search "*No Solo Missions*" - <u>listen</u> to <u>WHY</u> it's so <u>important</u> - we <u>don't try to FOLLOW</u> Jesus <u>alone</u>

In the Gospels – we NEVER SEE JESUS send out the Disciples Alone

We MUST to LINK ARMS with Fellow Believers

In order to FOLLOW JESUS

AND in order to BE SENT OUT BY JESUS

& <u>then</u> - we <u>SEE HERE</u> - <u>Jesus gave</u> them <u>AUTHORITY</u> - -<u>specifically</u> Authority <u>OVER Evil Spirits</u>

<u>I love this</u> – because: <u>Truly</u>, <u>Our Battle</u> is a <u>SPIRITUAL BATTLE</u>, & <u>ALL</u> our <u>True Victories</u> are <u>SPIRITUAL VICTORIES</u>

2 Corinthians 10:4 (ESV)

4 For the weapons of our warfare are not of the flesh but <u>have</u> <u>divine power to destroy strongholds</u>.

SALVATION - & the GROWTH of God's Kingdom Are SUPERNATURAL THINGS

& <u>if we start</u> using the <u>World's Ways</u> <u>to talk</u> people <u>INTO Receiving Christ</u>

then the World will just respond
by talking them OUT of Following Christ

BUT – the SIMPLE GOSPEL is a SUPERNATURAL THING

A <u>SUPERNATURAL THING</u> that has <u>DIVINE POWER</u> to <u>DESTROY STRONGHOLDS</u> in people's lives

Repent – Turn to God – Truly Receive Jesus Christ by Faith, & Supernatural things will begin to happen NEXT - In Mark 6:8-9 - Jesus MADE SURE

that the <u>Disciples</u> would <u>REMAIN</u> <u>COMPLETELY DEPENDENT</u> on <u>God</u>

They were on a SUPERNATURAL MISSION – (as WE are)

& **they had** the **LEARN** to **TRUST** God's **SUPERNATURAL PROVISION** – *(as WE do)*

Look at Mark 6:8-9 (NLT)

8 He told them to take nothing for their journey except a <u>walking</u> <u>stick</u>—no food, no traveler's bag, no money. 9 He allowed them to wear <u>sandals</u> but <u>not</u> to take a <u>change of</u> <u>clothes</u>.

<u>NOTHING</u> but a <u>WALKING STICK</u> & <u>SANDALS</u>? <u>NO Food</u> – <u>NO Overnight Bag</u> – <u>NO Money?</u> – <u>NO Extra Shirt</u>

<u>WHY?</u>

BECAUSE - With NONE of these NORMAL Supplies

<u>They</u> would <u>HAVE</u> to <u>Learn</u> to <u>DEPEND</u> on the <u>SUPERNATURAL PROVISION</u> of God

They would <u>HAVE</u> to <u>Learn</u> to <u>BE DIRECTED</u> <u>Just AS JESUS</u> was <u>DIRECTED</u>

By LISTENING to God and RESPONDING in Obedience

Every branch of the Military

has a FINAL EVENT that <u>TESTS</u> the <u>Recruits Ability</u> to <u>MAKE IT</u> in the <u>real world</u> of <u>Battle</u>

IN THE NAVY – it's a 12-hour event called BATTLE STATIONS Designed to put The Recruits under EXTREME PRESSURE & make them PERFORM well UNDER STRESS for an EXTENDED PERIOD of time

IN THE MARINES – it's called THE CRUCIBLE a <u>54 hour event</u> with <u>food</u> & <u>sleep deprivation</u> & <u>45 miles</u> of <u>hiking</u> <u>Designed</u> to <u>ensure</u> that the <u>Recruit</u> is <u>READY</u> <u>Physically</u>, <u>Mentally</u>, & <u>Morally</u> for <u>what lies ahead</u> for them

& <u>I think</u> – these **FINAL EVENT** Military Training **Exercises**

BEST EXPLAIN - WHY Jesus did this with His Disciples

THIS was their FINAL TEST

<u>WOULD</u> they take the <u>SIMPLE GOSPEL</u> to the <u>World</u> – & <u>DEPEND</u> on the <u>SUPERNATURAL PROVISION</u> of <u>GOD</u>

When we JOIN JESUS CHRIST on HIS MISSION

<u>We JOIN</u> a <u>SPIRITUAL BATTLE</u> for the <u>SOULS of this WORLD</u> I **believe Jesus** is **PREPARING** his **FIRST RECRUITS** here for the **REAL WORLD Battle**

PREPARING THEM:

To **Depend** on the **SUPERNATURAL LEADING** of **God** & the **SUPERNATURAL PROVISION** of **God**

To **PREPARE THEM** – to **Continue CHRIST'S MISSION** on Earth

& <u>So</u> - <u>WHAT ABOUT</u> the people <u>YOU will MEET</u> as <u>YOU GO</u> to <u>share</u> the <u>SIMPLE GOSPEL</u> With <u>The World</u>

Jesus has TWO INSTRUCTIONS for you - the 1ST ONE is in

Mark 6:10 (NLT)

10 *"Wherever you go," he said, "stay in the <u>same house</u> until you leave town.*

This seems like an odd requirement - doesn't it?

BUT – What If - God has A REASON

<u>for you</u> to <u>STAY</u> in that <u>FIRST HOUSE</u> he <u>brought you to</u> <u>until his work</u> – <u>Thru You</u> – is <u>done there</u> How many times do we see THE APOSTLE PAUL STAYING with someone when he comes into town

& then leaving with a HOUSE CHURCH

<u>Started IN THAT person's house</u> <u>or at least BEING LED</u> by <u>that person?</u>

WHAT IF that Place – that God has LED YOU

is <u>RIGHT</u> where <u>GOD WANTS YOU</u> <u>For as Long</u> as <u>HE WANTS</u> you <u>THERE?</u>

& WHAT IF that Person you want to MOVE AWAY FROM

is <u>THE PERSON</u> God <u>wants</u> you to <u>WITNESS TO</u> and <u>DISCIPLE</u> <u>For As Long</u> as <u>God</u> has <u>you there?</u>

I believe God is saying - TRUST ME

When <u>GOD PUTS</u> you <u>in a place</u> – <u>STAY THERE</u> <u>As LONG</u> as <u>God</u> has <u>YOU THERE</u>

<u>Let God</u> work – <u>Right</u> where he's <u>PUT YOU</u> "<u>Grow Where You're Planted</u>" (also on WBM App)

Because You <u>NEVER KNOW</u> <u>WHAT GOD</u> Is going to DO – <u>Right Where He's PUT YOU</u> BUT . . .

There is so often a BUT . . . isn't there?

Look at Mark 6:11 (NLT)

11 <u>But</u> if any place <u>refuses</u> to <u>welcome</u> you or <u>listen</u> to you, shake its dust from your feet as you leave to show that you have abandoned those people to their fate."

That's pretty serious, right?

But isn't that <u>what Jesus</u> JUST DID in his own <u>home town</u> of <u>Nazareth</u>?

Last Week – we talked about EXTREME UNBELIEF

& <u>You & I Don't Want ANYONE</u> to be <u>THAT HARDENED</u> in <u>their Unbelief</u> – It's *Very Painful*

But - It DOES HAPPEN

& <u>we have</u> to be <u>PREPARED</u> for <u>it</u>

Finally – Here's the MAIN POINT – The M.I.P.

To JOIN JESUS – in his MISSION to Save The World (Literally)

We **MUST EMBRACE** the **SIMPLE GOSPEL**

And we MUST EMBRACE - SHARING IT With the People Jesus SENDS US TOO

<u>Again - Mark 6:12 (NLT)</u> 12 So the disciples went out, <u>telling everyone</u> they met to <u>repent</u> <u>of their sins and turn to God</u>.

We have ONLY ONE MESSAGE Because Jesus had ONLY ONE MESSAGE

Repent (which means turn from) of your sins - and turn to God for Salvation through faith in Jesus Christ

& the <u>DISCIPLES WENT</u> – With <u>COMPASSION</u> for the <u>People</u> & the <u>POWER of God</u> Flowing <u>THRU them</u>

Mark 6:13 (NLT)

13 And they <u>cast out many demons</u> and <u>healed many sick people</u>, anointing them with olive oil.

The COMPASSION was SHOWN IN THE POWER of God - toward the People

In <u>CASTING</u> out <u>DEMONS</u> & <u>HEALING</u> many <u>Sick PEOPLE</u>

BUT – *The Message Remained* – the **SIMPLE GOSPEL**

Repent of your sin and turn to God for salvation through faith in Jesus Christ

<u>1 COR 1:18</u> says The <u>Message of the Cross</u> is the POWER of GOD to those who are being Saved

These **people RECEIVED** the **Message of the Cross** – The **SIMPLE GOSPEL**

& THEY SAW – The POWER OF GOD - Change their Lives

Guys – We <u>MUST LEARN</u> <u>TO FULLY EMBRACE</u> - The <u>SIMPLE GOSPEL</u>

Repent of your sins - and turn to God for Salvation – through faith in Christ Alone

<u>When</u> you <u>talk</u> to <u>your friends</u> – <u>your family</u> – those <u>you know</u> – <u>Try</u> to <u>GET</u> to the <u>SIMPLE GOSPEL</u> Message

It is THE POWER OF GOD that will BRING Salvation, Healing, & Transformation

<u>TO YOU</u>

<u>& to THOSE</u> you <u>SHARE</u> the <u>SIMPLE GOSPEL</u> with

Let's Pray