

Hidden Kingdom Part 10 - "People of Peace" (4-18-21)

Introduction: Remember Part 5 - Mission (a disciple is someone who is following, changing, & on mission)

1) Sent & Empowered (He has the power / He is with us / We are his representatives)

Matthew 10:5-10 (ESV)

(5) These twelve Jesus sent out, instructing them, "Go nowhere among the Gentiles and enter no town of the Samaritans, (6) but go rather to the lost sheep of the house of Israel. (7) And proclaim as you go, saying, 'The kingdom of heaven is at hand.' (8) Heal the sick, raise the dead, cleanse lepers, cast out demons. You received without paying; give without pay. (9) Acquire no gold or silver or copper for your belts, (10) no bag for your journey, or two tunics or sandals or a staff, for the laborer deserves his food.

Notes: Jesus sends out his 12 disciples to proclaim the good news that God's Kingdom is here!

(5-6) - they knew their specific audience, it was the very people they lived amongst!

(7) - clear message: "the kingdom of heaven is available!"

(8a) - power to impact lives: healing, new life, cleansing, freeing

(8b-10) - don't worry about what you get out of it, your needs will be provided for

Matthew 28:18-20 (ESV)

(18) And Jesus came and said to them, "**All authority** in heaven and on earth has been **given to me**. (19) **Go therefore and make disciples of all nations**, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, (20) teaching them to observe all that I have commanded you. And behold, **I am with you always**, to the end of the age."

Note: Remember - Jesus has all power and He is with us, we too have been sent to specific people!

2 Corinthians 5:17-20 (ESV)

(17) Therefore, if anyone is in Christ, he is a new creation. The old has passed away; behold, the new has come. (18) All this is from God, who through Christ reconciled us to himself and **gave us the ministry of reconciliation**; (19) that is, in Christ God was reconciling the world to himself, not counting their trespasses against them, and entrusting to us the message of reconciliation. (20) Therefore, **we are ambassadors for Christ**, God making his appeal through us. We implore you on behalf of Christ, be reconciled to God.

Note: I get to carry great hope, & I am a unique representative where he has me!

Application: Do I take seriously my role as one who is sent, empowered, & Jesus' representative where I live?

2) Who - People of Peace

Matthew 10:11-15 (ESV)

(11) And whatever town or village you enter, find out who is worthy in it and stay there until you depart. (12) As you enter the house, greet it. (13) And if the house is worthy, let your peace come upon it, but if it is not worthy, let your peace return to you. (14) And if anyone will not receive you or listen to your words, shake off the dust from your feet when you leave that house or town. (15) Truly, I say to you, it will be more bearable on the day of judgment for the land of Sodom and Gomorrah than for that town.

(11-15) - reach out to the “People of Peace” (see Luke’s wording when Jesus sent out the 72 - 10:5-6)

Luke 10:5-8 (ESV)

(5) Whatever house you enter, first say, ‘Peace be to this house!’ (6) And if **a son of peace is there**, your peace will rest upon him. But if not, it will return to you. (7) And remain in the same house, eating and drinking what they provide, for the laborer deserves his wages. Do not go from house to house. (8) Whenever you enter a town and they receive you, eat what is set before you.

3) How - Sheep, Serpents, Doves

Matthew 10:16 (ESV)

“Behold, I am sending you out as sheep in the midst of wolves, so be wise as serpents and innocent as doves.”

- We lead as **Sheep among Wolves** – you will get attacked & hurt. Be prepared, sorry!
 - The Good Shepherd will protect us
 - Be mindful of your role - don’t let wolves turn you into a wolf
 - Don’t mistake sheep for wolves - sheep bite sometimes!
- **Serpent** – Wise
 - **Patient**
 - **Observant**
 - **Camouflage** - They can blend in (be present, real, & vulnerable - be with people)
 - **Timing** – strike at just the right time
- **Dove** – Safe
 - **Committed** – they marry for life! (committed & relational)
 - **Calm & Peaceful** – non-threatening
 - **Not easily spooked** – slingshot story

Remember: We are like a Snake & a Dove at the same time! **Safe & Wise**

Conclusion: Who are your “people of peace”? How can you be strategic to reach them (safe & wise)? Remember you are an “ambassador sheep,” but the Powerful Shepherd is with you!