

CGH Online July 14, 2024

What is the Mission?

**Mat 10:1-6 And he called to him his twelve disciples and gave them authority over unclean spirits, to cast them out, and to heal every disease and every affliction. (2) The names of the twelve apostles are these: first, Simon, who is called Peter, and Andrew his brother; James the son of Zebedee, and John his brother; (3) Philip and Bartholomew; Thomas and Matthew the tax collector; James the son of Alphaeus, and Thaddaeus; (4) Simon the Zealot, and Judas Iscariot, who betrayed him. (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.**

Discussion Questions:

What do we think of when we think of a “mission” in general?

What do we think of when we think of a “mission trip?”

Mission [Oxford English Dictionary]: 1. an important official job that a person or group of people is given to do, especially when they are sent to another country. 2. a group of people doing an important official job; the place where they work. 3. the work of teaching people about Christianity, especially in a foreign country; a group of people doing such work. 4. particular work that you feel it is your duty to do.

So if we are going to carry out a mission what might we need?

**Mat 10:1 And he called to him his twelve disciples and gave them authority over unclean spirits, to cast them out, and to heal every disease and every affliction.**

Discussion Questions?

How does this help with the mission?

Did Jesus mean that the disciples would actually be able to perform miracles and healings?

What are some potential challenges that might come from this charge?

Scripture references:

Mar 16:17-18 And these signs will accompany those who believe: in my name they will cast out demons; they will speak in new tongues; (18) they will pick up serpents with their hands; and if they drink any deadly poison, it will not hurt them; they will lay their hands on the sick, and they will recover.”

Joh 20:21-23 Jesus said to them again, “Peace be with you. As the Father has sent me, even so I am sending you.” (22) And when he had said this, he breathed on them and said to them, “Receive the Holy Spirit. (23) If you forgive the sins of any, they are forgiven them; if you withhold forgiveness from any, it is withheld.”

Luk 10:19-20 Behold, I have given you authority to tread on serpents and scorpions, and over all the power of the enemy, and nothing shall hurt you. (20) Nevertheless, do not rejoice in this, that the spirits are subject to you, but rejoice that your names are written in heaven.”

Are there any themes running through these passages?

How do they relate to the “original” Mission Charge we are studying today?

**2) The names of the twelve apostles are these: first, Simon, who is called Peter, and Andrew his brother; James the son of Zebedee, and John his brother; (3) Philip and Bartholomew; Thomas and Matthew the tax collector; James the son of Alphaeus, and Thaddaeus; (4) Simon the Zealot, and Judas Iscariot, who betrayed him.**

Why is it significant to name all of the disciples here?

What is significant about the number 12?

What ultimately happens to the disciples?

**(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.**

What is significant about the phrase “instructing them?”

Why were they to avoid Gentiles and Samaritans? Does it mean they were to be excluded?

Have we seen this in past scripture?

In our past discussions we have talked fairly extensively about mission work and being sent out to serve. We are familiar with the Great Commission. In Acts 1:8 we read “ But you will receive power when the Holy Spirit has come upon you, and you will be my witnesses in Jerusalem and in all Judea and Samaria, and to the end of the earth.”

What does this mean for us in Columbia Missouri? What does this mission charge tell us about OUR mission?

“Where” are we to serve?