

SERIES: GETTING TO KNOW JESUS

SUBJECT: COME AND GO.

SCRIPTURE: MARK 6:7-13

SERMON NO. 12

Introduction

Mark 1:16-18 As Jesus walked by the sea of Galilee, he saw Simon and Andrew his brother casting a net into the sea: for they were fisher. 17 Jesus said unto them, Come ye after me, and I will make you to become fishers of men. 18 Straightway they forsook their nets, and followed him.

I don't think these guys had a clue of what was in store for them when Jesus said, "Come ye after me. The same is true of those who follow Christ today!

Simon and Andrew knew what it meant to be fishers of fish. But fishing for men was going to be a whole new experience for them. Fishing for men would require their time, effort, and faithfulness to God.

- 1) It meant they would have to leave the comfort of their own little group, and get involved with the people who lived around them.
- 2) It meant they would have to make a net that would be attractive enough to draw people to desire a relationship with Jesus.
- 3) It meant that they would have to do more than just start an organization, put a sign out by the roadside, and say, "Ya'll come!"
- 4) It meant they would have to be willing to "Come and Go". That was Jesus' final word before He left this earth, He said... Matthew 28:19a 19a **Therefore go and make disciples of all nations...**, This truth is meant for us today.

Mark 6:7-13, talks about three major things that are needed to effectively "Come and Go":

1. The Messengers.
2. The Message.
3. The Mercy.

You and I can experience the same power and success when we obey Jesus' command to "Come and Go" as His disciples did 2000 years ago.

I. THE MESSAGERS WERE SIMPLE FOLK. (Mark 6:7a).

He called unto him the twelve, and began to send them forth by two and two; and gave them power over unclean spirits.

There are three important characteristics concerning these messengers as we "Come and Go."

1. There was Preparation. Mark 6:7a

There's nothing fancy here. No Bible College or Christian Liberal Arts training. There wasn't a seminarian among the 12. They were qualified to "go" and represent Jesus, for just one reason-they had spent time with Him. That was the extent of their preparation.

To be an effective messenger of the good news of Jesus today, the same preparation is required! Only people who have spent time with Jesus are qualified to share with others. That's because you cannot give what you do not have; and you will not have anything to share if you don't personally know Jesus.

You don't need a Masters or Doctor's degree from any accredited program of religious education. These are man's requirements not Gods! But you do need a living relationship with the living Savior.

If you know Jesus as the forgiver of your sins, and are following Him as the leader of your life, then you, just like the disciples, have all the preparation that's necessary to share the good news.

2. There Was Power. Mark 6:7b

These disciples weren't sent out under their own power. They went to their assignments under the power of Almighty God that was given to them by Jesus Christ. It was Jesus who gave them the power and authority over the evil spirits. God never calls us to do anything for Him, without giving us the power we need to accomplish the task.

God simply wants you to be you-just like He made you-and let Him do through you whatever He wants to do. In that, there is massive power.

3. There Was Provision. Mark 6:8-11

Jesus told these guys to go..., and go in faith that He would provide for their needs. These 12 guys were going to learn an important and valuable lesson. The lesson was that they could trust God to provide for all their needs.

When Jesus told them to "go", not only was He going to provide the spiritual power for them, but He was also going to provide anything they needed to get the job done. You see, Jesus was beginning to teach His disciples how to have faith.

Faith is the single concept that none of us who follow Jesus can afford to neglect. But when we are asked to live our lives by faith, you need to understand something very important-that will always lead us to a crossroads in our lives. And at that crossroad we will

have a decision to make-Do I trust God and what I cannot see, or do I trust me and what I can see.

Friends, this is where Christian after Christian after Christian has missed out on experiencing the power of God in their lives. Too many have chosen to walk by sight, not by faith. But understand this: to have God's power to do what God wants, will always take stepping out in faith-never walking by sight. The disciples had to do it, and so do we.

II. THE MESSAGE WAS SIMPLE, REPENT. (Mark 6:12).

They went out, and preached that men should repent.

1. The message was very simple, "Repent." This is the same message Jesus had been preaching ever since the beginning of His ministry. **Repent, for the Kingdom of God is at hand!"**

From the beginning, the disciples had heard this message. Now, it was their turn to tell it. So when they went out, they understood the message they needed to share. It was the message of repentance. People needed to be willing to quit their present lifestyle, and replace it with a new and better way. This was the message that Jesus taught, and this is the one the disciples were given.

2. The message was to sinners. preached that men should repent.

Now, I'll guarantee you that there were some folks who listened to Jesus, and who listened to the disciples' message who thought they were pretty good people. They weren't THAT bad. What did they have to repent about? *Think about that..*

Suppose that a person sins, or falls short of God's perfection just 3 times a day. -One sin in the morning, -One sin sometime during the

day, -and just one sin at night. That sounds like a pretty good person, doesn't it?!

Let's assume that this person became totally responsible for his or her actions by the age of 10. And let's say that this person lives to be 80 years old. That means that over the course of his or her lifetime, this "really good person" has committed 76,650 offenses or sins against God. 76,650 times where he or she fell short of the glory of God.

You see friends, even a "really good person" is still a sinner, and therefore separated from God because of that sin. All sin has to be answered for-that's part of God's justice. And that will happen when every person stands before the sinless, perfect and Holy God at the end of their life.

But sins can be forgiven. And the place where those sins are forgiven, and a love relationship between God and sinful people is established for eternity, happens when the sinner agrees with God about his or her sinful condition.

Friends, that's the beginning of the message that Jesus taught, that's the message the disciples preached, and that's the message you and I must share.

III. THE MESSAGE WAS THAT OF MERCY. (Mark 6:13).
They cast out many devils, and anointed with oil many that were sick, and healed them.

1. God Wants To Minister to The Total Person. The disciples were prepared because they had been with Jesus. They knew the message of repentance. Now, they were privileged to be a the life-

line for God's Mercy to others. God is interested in more than just forgiving our sins. He is interested in making us whole people.

The ministry of the 12 disciples didn't end when they preached the Gospel to the people in the villages. As people repented and re-established a relationship with God, the disciples were able to minister to their spirits and their bodies, as well as their souls.

They cast out demons who were tormenting their spirits, -and many sick people were healed as they anointed them with oil and prayed for them. He wants to deal with our problems regardless if they are on an emotional level or a physical level.

Not only must we never neglect to give people the life-changing Gospel which will meet their eternal needs. -But we must also never neglect to reach out to them with the healing power of God to meet their present needs as well. This is where our witness will really be seen.

2. We Take the Mercy of God When We Go. You see friends, salvation isn't the only part we take with us when we "Go". We also take the mercy of God. That's what encourages people who need encouragement and provides healing in their spirit and their body. The mercy of God reaches into all areas of human existence.
1)When people were hungry, Jesus fed them; so should we.
2)When people were suffering, Jesus ministered to their need; so should we.

Conclusion

If this world is going to be reached, I am convinced that it must be reached by average men and women of average talent. There are very few people in the world who have great talents.

Every one of us are average people. God still says to each of us, "COME AND GO".

- 1)Everyone of us average people are messengers of God.
- 2)Everyone of us average people have a message from God.
- 3)And everyone of us average people are to carry the mercy of God to someone who is hurting.

And armed with those three simple things God says to us.. "Come and Go. I am with you always."