

July 11, 2021 Mark 6:7-13. Amos 7:12-15
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ENTERING THE SCENE:

In these days of trails and treadmills; walking takes on a totally different energy. We buy good walking shoes; wear clothing that is designed for comfort and style. That is a far different activity than in Jesus' day.

Walking meant discomfort and often danger. You wanted to dress in a way that advertised that you had nothing of value to steal so as to deter robbers. Beggars had bags so as to carry with them anything they might have been given to tide them over in case no one gave them anything the next day. Jesus' instructions sent out the disciples as safely as he could, but without any sense of self sufficiency. He knew from experience that would be the only way that they would open themselves to whatever the Spirit wanted them to receive. We come to the text today hopefully with this same openness.

Mark 6: 7-13

7. Calling the **Twelve** to him, he **sent** them out **two by two** and gave them. **authority** over **evil spirits**.

8. These were his **instructions**: "Take **nothing** for the **journey** except a **staff**--no **bread**, no **bag**, no **money** in your belts. 9 Wear **sandals** but not an **extra tunic**. 10 Whenever you **enter** a house, **stay** there until you leave that town. 11 And if any place will not **welcome** you or **listen** to you, **shake** the dust off your feet when you **leave**, as a testimony against them." 12 They went out and **preached** that people should **repent**. 13 They drove out many **demons** and **anointed** many sick people with **oil** and healed them.

DISCUSSION QUESTION: Do I welcome people knocking on my door in such a way that they can open themselves with their gifts of the Spirit?

PRAYER: Travel guide Jesus, you ask me to trust your instructions as I walk through the days of my life. You often send me out with nothing but the clothes on my "spiritual back". If I am open and trusting enough, you also send me to places and people who welcome me and nourish me. Help me in those needy times to expect that this will continue to support my walk in faith. Amen.