Matthew 10:1-15

Review...

- o FIRST The Presentation of the King Matthew 1-7
- o SECOND The Ministry of the King Matthew 8-18
- o Impossible Faith...
 - Jesus was still having dinner at the house of Matthew [tax collector]
 - When Jairus the ruler of the synagogue asked him to come and heal his daughter [TWELVE]
 - On the way a woman sick for TWELVE years was healed by touching his clothing...
 - When they came to the house of Jairus He took the girl by the hand and she was resurrected!
- o Persistent Faith...
 - Coming out of the house TWO blind men called out to Jesus to heal them [Son of David]
 - He asked if they believed if He had the power they said Yes Lord...
 - According to their FAITH [not words] Jesus healed them!
- o Silent Faith...
 - Jesus cast put a demon from a man who was DUMB demon had kept him from HEARING...
 - But the PHARISEES said Jesus cast out the demon by the power of satan...
 - When Jesus saw the people did NOT have good shepherds it broke His heart...
 - He told His DISCIPLES to pray the Lord would send out LABORERS into His HARVEST!

• 1^{ST} – Into the Harvest... vs. 1-4

- o 1st Twelve men... vs. 1
 - All night in Prayer...
 - Luke 6:12 "[Jesus] went to the mountain to pray and continued all night in prayer to God."
 - Jesus had just finished saying PRAY the Lord send workers into His HARVEST...
 - And the very next thing He did was PRAY who to send to reach the LOST...
 - Multitudes had come to hear Jesus and a growing number of DISCIPLES followed Him...
 - But by PRAYER from the among the many DISCIPLES He choose TWELVE...
 - Listed FOUR times in the New Testament Mark 3:13-19 Luke 6:12-16 Acts 1:13
 - Often people make MAJOR decisions WITHOUT taking the time to PRAY...
 - But the truth is we have no IDEA what tomorrow holds...
 - Therefore we are WISE to ask the only one who SEES the FUTURE!
 - Proverbs 3:5 "Trust in the LORD with all your heart lean not on your own understanding."
 - Why Twelve...
 - When He had called His twelve disciples to Him!
 - One would assume if Jesus wanted to spread the GOSPEL He would send LOTS of people...
 - And Jesus did send more than TWELVE into the HARVEST [the SEVENTY] **Luke 10:1**
 - But these TWELVE were SPECIAL they would also become LEADERS in the CHURCH!
 - TWELVE is a number we see used to represent the GOVERNMENT of God...
 - There were TWELVE tribes in the nation of Israel Genesis 49:28
 - TWENTY four ELDERS [Tribes and Apostles] before the throne of God Revelation 4:4
 - These TWELVE men will be the PILLARS of the New Jerusalem Revelation 21:14
 - Authority...
 - He gave them [authority] over unclean spirits to cast them out.
 - And to heal all kinds of sickness and all kinds of disease!
 - The TWELVE had SEEN Jesus do the impossible...
 - $\bullet \quad \text{They had SEEN Him cast demons [legion] out of men \textbf{Matthew 8:32}}$
 - They had SEEN Him heal incurable diseases [lepper]- Matthew 8:3

- They had SEEN Him heal the paralytic the blind the dumb...
- They had SEEN Him raise the dead [daughter of Jairus] Matthew 9:25
- There was NO question He had AUTHORITY [ἐξουσία] over demons and ALL $[π\tilde{\alpha}\varsigma]$ sickness...
- And now He was giving that same AUTHORITY to the TWELVE!
- John 14:12 "Anyone who believes in me will do the same works... and even greater works."
- Because God is the one who SENDS us we go out in His AUTHORITY...
- Meaning we also will have POWER over demons and ALL kinds of SICKNESS...
- But we will NOT only do what Jesus did we will do GREATER things...
- What could be greater than healing casting out demons raising the dead...
- If we HEAL people will get sick again if we RAISE the dead they DIE again one day...
- The GREATER work is giving the GOSPEL bringing eternal LIFE that never fades away!
- o 2nd The Apostles... vs. 2-4
 - Sent out...
 - Now the names of the twelve apostles are these:
 - This is the FRIST time the word APOSTLE is used in the NEW Testament...
 - The TITLE of Apostle is one that tends to cause confusion...
 - Some see it as the HIGHEST authority within the church Ephesians 4:11
 - But the word APOSTLE [ἀπόστολος] simple means one who is SENT out!
 - It is a picture of an AMBASSADOR a representative of God to the world...
 - EVERYTHING we have SEEN Jesus do in our lives we are called to go tell EVERYONE...
 - We might think that we will NEVER be an APOSTLE but we are all SENT out!
 - II Corinthians 5:20 "We are ambassadors for Christ..."
 - Their Names ...
 - Simon Peter Simeon [Σίμων] means to HEAR but Peter [πρῶτος] means ROCK [hard head]
 - **Andrew** [Ἀνδρέας] MANLY or macho [he was the brother of Peter]
 - James [Ἰάκωβος] from Hebrew Jacob meaning heal catcher [brother of John]
 - John [Ἰωάννης] meaning God is [חָנַן] gracious [James and John were the sons of Zebedee]
 - **Philip** [Φίλι π πος] LOVER of horses [from Bethsaida friend of Nathaniel]
 - Bartholomew SON of [מַלְמֵי] giant [surname] given name was Nathaniel John 1:45
 - Thomas $[\Theta\omega\mu\tilde{\alpha}\varsigma]$ TWIN best known for doubting the resurrection of Jesus John 20:25
 - Matthew $[M\alpha\theta\theta\alpha\tilde{\imath}o\varsigma]$ GIFT of Yahweh [tax collector from Capernaum]
 - James [Ἰάκωβος] the son of Alpheus brother of Matthew [Levi] Mark 2:14
 - **Lebbaeus** or Thaddaeus BIG heart [surname] given name was Judas [brother of James]
 - Simeon the Canaanite [קנָא] or Zealot [ζηλωτής] wanted to overthrow Roman rule
 - **Judas** Iscariot [man of the city] the one who would ultimately betray Jesus!
 - There are FOUR things that HIT me looking at this list!
 - The Three...
 - FIRST Peter James and John were with Jesus even when NO one else was...
 - $\bullet \quad \text{Jesus resurrects the little girl} \textbf{Matthew 9:25} \text{Mount of Transfiguration} \textbf{Matthew 17:1}$
 - Only they went with Jesus when He prayed in Gethsemane **Matthew 26:37**
 - This leads us to believe these disciples were SPECIAL SUPER disciples...
 - Especially when we consider how God used Peter and John in the book of Acts!
 - Yet when we look closer at their lives they were a MESS...
 - Peter was the only APOSTLE to DENY Jesus and then QUIT the ministry **John 21:3**
 - James and John were called the Sons of Thunder [not a compliment] Mark 3:17
 - They wanted to call down FIRE on a village that refused to let them enter **Luke 9:54**
 - I do NOT think they were SPECIAL [good] I think they were SPECIAL [bad]

- If we have kids who always get into TROUBLE we want them right NEXT to us...
- Jesus kept these men CLOSE afraid to let them wander too far away!
- Relationships...
 - SECOND these men were NOT strangers to each other...
 - Brothers: Peter and Andrew James and John Matthew with James and Judas...
 - Friends: Andrew knew Philip and Philip knew Nathaniel...
 - Only Thomas Simeon and Judas Iscariot seem to have no connections to the rest!
 - There are over EIGHT billion people in the world and ALL of them need Jesus...
 - Reaching a LOST with the Gospel can seem an overwhelming task...
 - But the Gospel often moves along RELATIONAL lines...
 - We go out in the HARVEST and by reaching our FAMILIES and FRIENDS!
- Ordinary men...
 - THIRD these were NOT the men you would expect God to choose...
 - If I was to pick TWELVE men to reach out and change the world...
 - I would pick the POLITICIANS [from Rome] who could make the rules...
 - I would pick MOVIE stars [gladiators] who could influence the most people...
 - I would pick PROFESSORS [Socrates] who could teach others...
 - I would pick rich BUSINESS men who could finance the work!
 - But the APOSTLES were from the Galilee a TINY city in an IRRELEVANT province of Rome...
 - They were POOR fishermen they were UNEDUCATED Acts 4:13
 - They had NOTHING that qualified them to CHANGE the world...
 - Other than Jesus CHOSE them and they said YES!
 - **I Corinthians 1:27-29** "God has chosen the foolish things of the world to put to shame the wise... that no flesh should glory in His presence."
 - We might be thinking that God could never use us...
 - Thinking that we do NOT have the right EDUCATION we have no MONEY...
 - We might think we are only from the PROVINCE NOT famous or influential...
 - But what that means is we are just as qualified as the Apostles were...
 - The only question to answer is do we say YES when God calls us!
- $\mathbf{2}^{\text{ND}}$ Sending the Twelve... vs. 5-9
 - o 1^{st} Where to go... vs. 5-6
 - Two by two...
 - Jesus broke up the APOSTLES into SIX groups He sent them out TWO by TWO Mark 6:7
 - There is wisdom in NOT being alone as we step out to serve Jesus...
 - Peter had John Paul had Barnabas [or Silas] Timothy had Titus!
 - **Ecclesiastes 4:9-10** "Two people can accomplish more than twice as much as one... If one person falls the other can reach out and help."
 - Having someone who will encourage us stand beside us in Jesus is priceless...
 - If we have a bad day they can encourage us if they are hurting we can encourage them...
 - If one of us is struggling with sin the other is there to pray and point back to Jesus!
 - Only to Israel...
 - These twelve Jesus sent out and commanded them saying:
 - Do not go into the way of the [nations] and do not enter a city of the Samaritans.
 - But go rather to the lost sheep of the house of Israel!
 - Jesus SENT [ἀποστέλλω] verb form of the noun APOSTLE [ἀπόστολος]
 - ullet He gave them FOUR commands [παραγγέλλω] as they went out into the HARVEST:
 - FIRST do NOT to go [subjunctive] to the NATIONS [$\xi\theta$ vo ς] or cities of the SAMARITANS...
 - Instead GO [imperative] to the LOST [ἀπόλλυμι] sheep of Israel...

- That does NOT mean that the Gospel is ONLY for Israel...
- It meant the God planned for the Gospel to SPREAD out from Israel...
- The Church started in Jerusalem then to Judah Samaria and the world Acts 1:8
- If we are wondering what part of the HARVEST God will send us out into...
- The answer is all around us He sends us into our WORK SCHOOL NEIGHBORHOOD!
- o 2^{nd} What to say... vs. 7
 - And as you go preach saying: [Because] the kingdom of heaven is at hand!
 - As they went from place to place person to person...
 - Then had to [imperative] PREACH [κηρύσσω] the message of the Gospel...
 - Telling people: because the Kingdom of Heaven is CLOSE [not much time]
 - That is why they were HEALING the sick and RAISING the dead and CASTING out demons!
 - Our SUN is so big if hollowed out it could hold 1.3 MILLION earths...
 - But UY Scuti the largest known star could hold 5 BILLION suns!
 - Yet they are only a small speck of light in the sky because they are so very FAR away!
 - Psalm 34:3 "Magnify the LORD with me and let us exalt His name together."
 - God is HUGE but LOST sinners are very FAR from Jesus so they cannot SEE Him...
 - Therefore we are called to go PROCLAIM [κηρύσσω] the GOOD news to them...
 - But not just with WORDS we need to SHOW them the AUTHORITY [ἐξουσία] of God...
 - It is though our lives that we MAGNIFY Jesus so that they can see His LOVE...
 - We get to SHOW them the KINGDOM of God Jesus in our HEARTS!
 - Luke 17:21 "For indeed the kingdom of God is within you."
- o 3^{rd} What to do... vs. 8
 - Give life...
 - Heal the [weak] cleanse the lepers raise the dead cast out demons.
 - The APOSTLES had to do FOUR things to show the Kingdom of Heaven was CLOSE...
 - HEAL [imperative] those who were WEAK [ἀσθενέω] different word from **Matthew 10:1**
 - CLEANSE [imperative] the LEPERS those who were UNCLEAN...
 - WAKE up [imperative] those who were DEAD [νεκρός]
 - CAST out [imperative] the demons who were keeping people from the TRUTH...
 - Put together it paints a SPIRITUAL picture of our WORK...
 - Those who are WEAK [sick] because they are UNCLEAN [lepers] as a result of sin...
 - Spiritually DEAD blinded by the god of this world II Corinthians 4:4
 - We were to HEAL by sharing the Gospel that will CLEANSE them of their sin...
 - So they can be RAISED to new LIFE FREED [cast out] from the bondage of satan!
 - No Charge...
 - Freely you have received freely give!
 - We did not PAY for our SALVATION it was a GIFT $[\delta \tilde{\omega} \rho o v]$ of God **Ephesians 2:8**
 - Therefore we must freely [δωρεάν] GIVE [imperative] the Gospel!
 - Sadly there are churches and pastors today who put a PRICE on salvation...
 - They greedily present a Gospel where MONEY [tithing] is part of the message...
 - But Paul told the church he would rather DIE than charge for the Gospel I Corinthians 9:15
 - The LAST words of Jesus on the cross were it is FINISHED John 19:30
 - The PRICE for our SIN was paid there is NO outstanding balance...
 - Jesus took care of it and offers EVERYONE the FREE gift of salvation!
- o 4th What to bring... vs. 9
 - Nothing...

- Provide neither gold nor silver nor copper in your money belts.
- Nor bag for your journey nor two tunics nor sandals nor staffs.
- For a worker is worthy of his food!
- They APOSTLES were NOT [imperative] to take anything with them Luke 9:3
- They were NOT to take and MONEY spare CLOTHES or even a walking STICK...
- The reason is because as they worked for GOD He would provide for their NEEDS!
- Child of the King...
 - There was a missionary named Brother Andrew [Gods smuggler]
 - When he was in Bible college they were told to do a month long evangelistic outreach...
 - One group from the college did lots of fund raising and they came back in DEBT...
 - But God put spoke to Andrew and asked are you the son of a PAUPER or KING...
 - The son of a KING does NOT need to go around BEGGING for money the KING provides...
 - Therefore Andrew asked for nothing and came back with an ABUNDANCE!
 - Too often in the church money is the focus [tithes plus offerings]
 - The reason the church is trying to do something that is THEIR idea...
 - If it is OUR idea we have to PAY for it because it is NOT from God...
 - But if it is from God then there is NO need to ask He will PROVIDE!
 - Exodus 36:6 "Do not [give] any more... We have enough!" [NLT]
- 3RD Sowing Seed... vs. 10-15
 - o 1st Worthy house... vs. 11-13
 - Seeking... vs. 11-13
 - Whatever city or town you enter inquire who in it is worthy and stay there till you go out.
 - And when you go into a household greet it.
 - If the household is worthy let your peace come upon it!
 - Whenever the APOSTLES came into a new city or town they were to INQUIRE...
 - INQUIRE [imperative] to SEEK out a HOUSE [people] who were WORTHY...
 - WORTHY someone who wanted to hear about Jesus...
 - $\bullet \hspace{0.4cm}$ When they found such a HOUSE they were walk in and GREET [imperative] the people...
 - And if the people were OPEN then they were to give [imperative] PEACE to them...
 - **Ephesians 2:14** "For [Jesus] is our peace."
 - Leaving... vs. 13
 - But if it is not worthy let your peace return to you!
 - If the people in the house did NOT want to hear the Gospel UNWORTHY...
 - Then they were to TAKE back [imperative] the MESSAGE [peace]
 - And move on to the next HOUSE next TOWN next CITY!
 - Parable of the SOWER the SEED was scattered over all types of ground Mark 4:3
 - It was not up to the FARMER to decide where the SEED fell or to make it GROW!
 - Our JOB is not to make people BELIEVE we are called to spread the Word [seed]
 - If someone is OPEN to the Gospel we STAY there and make disciples...
 - But when people chose NOT to listen we must move on...
 - Just because one person says NO does not mean the next one might not say YES!
 - o 2nd Shake the Dust... vs. 14-15
 - Not listening... vs. 14
 - Whoever will not receive you nor hear your words.
 - When you depart from that house or city shake off the dust from your feet!
 - When someone REJECTS the Gospel will not LISTEN to the Word...
 - As we LEAVE we must [imperative] SHAKE their dust off our feet...
 - A dramatic way of saying even their DUST we REJECT!

- Paul had a deep LOVE for his people the JEWS...
- But every time he tried to reach them with the GOSPEL it did not work out...
- In frustration he finally shook of the DUST and went to the GENTILES!
- Acts 18:6 "He shook [off their dust] ... from now on I will go to the Gentiles."
- Just because someone does NOT receive the Gospel does not mean they are LOST...
- It might just mean that is NOT where God is calling us to PREACH...
- How do we know WHO God has called us to SHARE the Gospel with...
- When people are willing to LISTEN that is who we are called to reach!
- Sodom and Gomorrah... vs. 15
 - Assuredly I say to you it will be more tolerable for the land of Sodom and Gomorrah...
 - In the day of judgment than for that city!
 - But if someone does NEVER listens to the Gospel it will NOT end well...
 - AMEN [ἀμήν] it will be BETTER for Sodom and Gomorrah...
 - These TWO cities are used throughout the Bible as a lesson on CONSEQUENCES...
 - They were wiped out in a SINGLE day [fire and brimstone] Genesis 19:24
 - Destroyed because EVERYTHING they did was WICKED Genesis 18:20
 - But the one thing the people of Sodom and Gomorrah did not do was REJECT the Gospel...
 - Therefore will be better for them in the Day of Judgment!
 - This is why we GO this is why we PRAY for the Lord to send laborers...
 - Because there are only TWO destinations Heaven and Hell...
 - And they only way to get to HEAVEN is through the message of the Gospel...
 - People have to CHOSE but we are called to go and give them the CHOICE!
 - Romans 10:15 "How beautiful are the feet of those who preach the gospel of peace."