

Mark 6:7-13 (NIV)

- 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.

41-06-02-The Mission of Kingdom Expansion  
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Mark 6:7-13

Jesus gives us His authority for expanding His Kingdom.

**INTRODUCTION:** (text as the Scripture Reading)

–Before our **text**, in **Mark 3-5**, when Jesus taught the Kingdom and did Kingdom miracles, Pharisees opposed His Sabbath healings; scribes doubted His exorcisms; His family questioned His sanity; a Gentile city drove Him off for saving a demoniac; His own home town ridiculed His ministry– **Mark 6:6a**, And he was amazed at their lack of faith. But did that stop Him? No!– **v.6b**. Then Jesus went around teaching from village to village. Jesus was *unstoppable*, even by the Cross.

–In **v.7** He began an *unstoppable pattern* by sending out His followers to do it too, a *pattern that will continue* till He returns. **HOM.idea. Our text exemplifies that pattern** and **v.7** is a good outline for it: *Calling the Twelve to him, he sent them out two by two and gave them authority over evil spirits.*

**I. Kingdom Expansion is an In-and-Out Mission**– **v.7**, “*Calling the Twelve to him, he sent them out*”

- A. The key to expanding the Kingdom is spending time with the King  
– **Rev 3:20** (NKJV), Behold, I stand at the door and knock. If anyone hears My voice and opens the door, I will come in to him and dine with him, and he with Me. (We use this verse as a visual for receiving Jesus, but it’s really Christ saying to us, “Let’s spend intimate time together!”)
- B. We produce Kingdom activity only through closeness to the King.
- [In **Journey Inward, Journey Outward**, Elizabeth O’Connor tells of a church that found the crucial balance between the *inward journey* of engaging with God and each other and the *outward journey* of ministering to a needy world.]
  - Jesus can’t send us to help others in a broken world unless we obey His call, “Come unto me...” (To be agents of *healing*, we must see ourselves as wounded healers—all of us needing intimate times with Christ for our own spiritual growth and healing.)

**TRANS:** We’re all on a mission to be *representatives* of the Lord we invited to live in our hearts. He calls us to Himself inwardly, so we can do His Kingdom work outwardly, not with our own understanding or ability, but with His will and power. **Jesus gives us His authority for**

expanding His Kingdom. But *it's not His will for us to work alone...*

## II. Kingdom Expansion is a Shared Mission— v.7, “and he *sent them out two by two*”

- A. *Why 6 teams when 12 single preachers could cover more ground? Jesus had 2 OT precedents for making this His mission pattern— Deut 19:15, A matter must be established by the testimony of two or three witnesses. & Eccl 4:10a, If one falls down, his friend can help him up....*
- B. Jesus Himself did nothing alone: His was a *Trinitarian mission*, with the Father and the Holy Spirit working alongside Him. (We may see exceptions to this, but *God's perfect will is Kingdom teamwork where we reflect and represent His own Triune nature.*)

**TRANS:** Jesus gives us His authority for expanding His Kingdom but *puts us together to help each other stay on track*. This is spelled out in Heb 10:25b, ...let us encourage one another—and all the more as you see the Day approaching. *What Day? The Day of Christ's Return*, when opportunities to *repent* is over. That gives the church a *very pressing mission...*

## III. Kingdom Expansion Is an Urgent Mission – v.8-9, *These were his instructions: “Take nothing for the journey except a staff—no bread, no bag, no money in your belts. Wear sandals but not an extra tunic.”*

- A. Christ's directives of frugality might mean, “*Trust God to supply all your needs!*” But later, He changed these directives...)
- B. More likely, He was sending them *like soldiers*, saying: “*Travel light and unencumbered, so you can get the job done quickly.*”
- C. This urgency is seen in v.10, *Whenever you enter a house, stay there until you leave that town.* (Don't let *hospitality* distract from the mission!)

**TRANS:** Then in v.11 He draws the line, dividing an open response to the Gospel from opposition to it: “*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.*” *What a tragedy!* Rejecting Kingdom light leaves people *lost in darkness*, and that means they have *missed the point...*

## IV. Kingdom Expansion Is for Liberating People Spiritually – v.7, “and [He] gave them authority over evil spirits.”

- A. Parallel Gospel passages include *preaching the Kingdom and to healing*

*the sick*, but Mark lists these as the results of the mission— v.12-13, They went out and preached that people should repent. They drove out many demons and anointed many sick people with oil and healed them.

- B. Mark's usual brevity reduced Kingdom authority to its bottom line: exorcism, and he was right— 1 John 3:8b, The reason the Son of God appeared was to destroy the devil's work. (For *spiritual liberation and healing*, people must do 3 things: 1) **repent** of the sins the devil led them into, 2) **renounce** Satan and all His works, and 3) enter the Kingdom of light by **surrendering** to the King.)

## CONCLUSION:

–**Jesus gives us His authority for expanding His Kingdom**, and that means *changed lives*. We can't *make* people repent. We can only pray for and proclaim that people should repent. Everyone must choose between the *Kingdom of light* and Satan's *realm of darkness*, which has as many shades of gray as there are human personalities to be duped by them.

–Our task is to tell people *what Jesus the King has said*, “I am the way and the truth and the life. No one comes to the Father except through me.” Then we're to bid them to cross over from darkness to light, surrendering to Jesus as Lord and joining us in this journey of Kingdom living and ministering with *Kingdom authority*.