



The Gospel According to Luke

Wk. 41 “Trust and Obey – Practical Theology”

By Pastor Jody May

Luke 9:1-6 ESV

Jesus Sends Out the Twelve Apostles

9 And he called the twelve together and gave them power and authority over all demons and to cure diseases, ²and he sent them out to proclaim the kingdom of God and to heal. ³And he said to them, “Take nothing for your journey, no staff, nor bag, nor bread, nor money; and do not have two tunics. ⁴And whatever house you enter, stay there, and from there depart. ⁵And wherever they do not receive you, when you leave that town shake off the dust from your feet as a testimony against them.” ⁶And they departed and went through the villages, preaching the gospel and healing everywhere.

Introduction:

Jesus has just spent the last chapter teaching us what **Faith** looks like. **It is when we show initiative, act on a conviction, and place dependence on God for the work/miracle.** Jesus had just demonstrated to the guys that had spent the last couple of years with Him how they had **bombed on the mid-term in the middle of the sea of Galilee**, and then God demonstrated through strangers what faith looks like.

Jesus has a choice here, flunk, grab another set, OR take what God has given Him, and actually put them out in the field, like an internship.

When we think of an Internship in our day and age here’s what we mean. You run the errands for your mentor, you help out in the work, but you never sign-off as someone that has authority in that company. When I was a graduate student, completing an internship at Ingram and associates I would see clients, I would run groups, I would be a part of clinical meetings where I could give suggestions, **but I could not actually diagnose someone nor write up a complete treatment plan for someone**, that had to come from Ingram. That’s reasonable because they were the one that had to float the insurance money in case, I messed someone up, that’s just the price we both paid for free work.



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BUT in our passage here Jesus, after they failed at exercising their Faith in Him while on the water, Jesus doesn't knock them down a peg, He moves them up to an unheard and never seen position in the world before.

9 And he called the twelve together and gave them power and authority over all demons and to cure diseases, ²and **he sent** them out to proclaim the kingdom of God and to heal.

The phrase “He sent” comes from the word **apostello** from where we get the word **APOSTLE**. Jesus teaches that God sent him as well:

Luke 10:16 ESV (see also Mat. 10:40; Mark 9:37; & John 5:36)

¹⁶“The one who hears you hears me, and the one who rejects you rejects me, and the one who rejects me rejects **him who sent me.**”

The reason this is important to understand is because Jesus saw Himself speaking for God, with all the authority of Heaven, for not only was He God, but Jesus through perfect submission to the Father only does what the Father wants. So, the reasoning here is that Jesus, is now moving the disciples from students to interns. Not interns like what we think of, these are fully empowered by the HS to do the same things as Jesus, to speak with the authority of God. They get to sign off on whatever they come across. What Jesus is doing is not putting faith in His boys He is putting faith (modeling for us) that these are the guys that the Father sent Him to do this. (John 6:39; 18:19)

The 12 Disciples, **12 ordinary, untrained men**, just became the 12 Apostles, and Paul later in the NT becomes lucky 13. But before we go any further there is some information here we need to be clear about.

- First this text is about what the Apostles did, **you and I are not Apostles** we are not called to cast out demons, heal, raise the dead and create doctrine, but we can still learn from the principles here about faith.



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- Secondly, we need to apply these principles because **according to Mat. 28** we still have been sent by our Lord to make disciples, more students of Him, through evangelism.
- Thirdly, please know that and take as a **message of Grace**, that Jesus knew what He was getting when he got these guys from His Father. He knew they would bicker, fight to see who is first, would deny His name, and one would even betray Him, but it did not keep Jesus from loving them.

You may have come in here thinking today you have nothing to offer Him, you have done too much wrong for Him, you have betrayed Him one too many times somehow but **that does not keep Jesus from loving you and employing you in the Kingdom**. The Gospel of Jesus is that He has paid the devil for the right to get to have you and lead you, you have been gifted to Him by God, and you have been given the gift to get up and try again, no matter what you have done.

So, there is much to learn from this passage this morning and talk about with you. **We want to learn what does it look like when Jesus begins to move us past the learning seats of discipleship into the world of interning becoming a teacher in your own unique way.**

Main Point:

The Act of Discipleship is having FAITH beyond the MEANS.

Today in the text we see that the first steps of Faith means believing that God wants us to move even when the means for our success don't seem present.

1st - TRUST, even when it's hard.

²and he sent them out to proclaim the kingdom of God and to heal. ³And he said to them, “Take nothing for your journey, no staff, nor bag, nor bread, nor money; and do not have two tunics.



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Jesus is like ok boys, you have been watching me, you have been taking some turns in teaching the class, but now I want you to leave me, and take nothing extra with you. You don't need a staff for support or protection, you don't need a bag to carry your provisions, money, or scrolls, you don't need food for your trip, and you won't need money to buy any either. As a matter of fact don't even take an extra t-shirt (modern translation clean undies).

Jesus sets up their faith for success, not failure, by destroying their everyday means of care and support. What He's teaching them is out **on the mission field I will supply you with the means**, go look for where the Spirit is moving and when you find your mission, when you discover the task for you, you will find the provisions for you to complete your mission. Jesus is very strategic with the Gospel, He air drops the people and resources for you that when you show up you will have what you need, no more and no less, to do so would be to steal from the lesson of Faith. For us what we see is a big fait failure sitting in front of us if we move into life without first having everything, we think we need.

- I can't talk to people about God because I don't know enough,
- I can't go back to work, I have been out of it too long,
- I can't finish school because it's too hard.

The problem is that the **lack of means is TOO visible** so we have **fear**. **Jesus explains that the mission is to learn TRUST not to be SUCCESSFUL in all areas of life, *learning how to TRUST JESUS IS THE WIN!***

Don't be afraid to move out into the world **taking chances with life, evangelism, and relationships**, life is not about always walking away **without being hurt** it is **discovering the Joy that you suffered some for Jesus' sake, because you TRUSTED Him, that's the victory!**

2nd - CONTENT, with what is given.

***4*And whatever house you enter, stay there, and from there depart.**

When I was in 16, I came up here to Atlanta, to the East side, with my youth group for a local missions trip. We were going to run a VBS for a



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smaller church, and while there we would stay with some of the people from that church. I was there with two other guys, Danny and Hanz, and we were startled awake the first morning as we heard blaring through the house the chanting of songs in the Indian language, played at high decibels. I explained to my youth pastor I was in fear of my life he said “Joe, you gotta stay, it’s where God want you “(Luke 9:4).

Seriously, here’s the offer in that day, traveling teachers would never stay in one home in a town because everywhere they stayed people would not only offer hospitality, but they would offer money for that teacher’s cause. **It was panhandling through being an educationalist.** Jesus is saying, no matter what you get you stay in the home where I put you, don’t seek out the better greener grass, I provided for you where I want you to lay your head.

Being content with all things is such a hard lesson to learn but it is one of the first lessons of faith we need to learn. We always want more, there is a better angle to get more, spend more, play more, be comforted more, and Jesus says part of living by faith is becoming content with what I give, for I give to you that **which will build your faith.** Instead of increasing the means of your existence, you are to live with be content with the means I gave you.

The blessings of the Gospel are not getting all that you want now, but it is about building your Faith so that you will preserve through this life, so you get what you want in the end, more of Jesus. Do you trust Jesus this morning to provide for you or are you working hard to provide more that what you really need?

3rd - DISCERN, what/who to be involved with.

⁵And wherever they do not receive you, when you leave that town shake off the dust from your feet as a testimony against them.”

Weird right? The way to interpret this is that the Apostles bearing the authority of God, where they went the presence of God went with them, so when leaving a town that did not want the message of the Gospel, they



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were to shake out the sand from their sandals not to be tainted by it. It was a sign of judgment to declare we did our job and now God will do His of judgment. In Acts 13 we see this was something they took quite literally.

Acts 13:50-52 ESV

⁵⁰ But the Jews incited the devout women of high standing and the leading men of the city, stirred up persecution against Paul and Barnabas, and drove them out of their district. ⁵¹ But they **shook off the dust from their feet against them** and went to Iconium. ⁵² And the disciples were filled with joy and with the Holy Spirit.

I think the challenge for us here today, is to understand that everyone we encounter, whether we have known them for a while, we really like them, they are family, and they may have even been a part of this body for a while, but your call and my call is to **discern that God may not be willing to open their ears to the Gospel** and it is time to move on...

I do find in the church sometimes that we have a problem loving people outside the church more than we love those inside. **Hear me in all of this, I am not saying give up, I am not saying not care, but I am telling you that the better option for the hard hearted is prayer!** How much have you prayed for the lost? **The second thing to learn is that God has a better calling for you**, stop feeling guilty, Salvation is given by God, and there is more work to do for you.

4th – What to Expect?

⁶ And they departed and went through the villages, preaching the gospel and healing everywhere.

Luke tells us what happened when the disciples began to move out and practice their internship: They preached the Gospel and people were healed.

They found where the Spirit was, they found those ready to receive the good news, they practiced living by faith not by sight relying on Jesus for the means, and they found success.



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Takeaway:

Jesus supplies the means, we supply the hands.

My family today I simply want you to walk away with this thought:

Evangelism and Faith go together, if we don't do our part in living on mission we neither have faith in what God wants to do and we lack faith because we will not practice it.

Let us as a body this morning commit to holding each other accountable to trusting when we don't see the means, being content with what we receive, and seek to discern where we are to put our gifts to work.

May God bless these years at HCC as we all walk a little bit deeper in Faith together developing a CORPORATE FAITH that will preserve not just us but our next generation to the end.

PRAYER

COMMUNION

BENEDICTION

Go in the name of the Father that has entrusted us to the Son, putting us in the care that has already established how to live by Faith.

Go in the name of the Son that has provided the means for all that we set out to do for His glory.

Go in the name and power of the HS that shows us who we are called to share the Gospel with and by whom we rely on the work of Regeneration for that person's soul.