

SERMON NOTES

Preacher: Kevin Hardy

Date: September 29, 2024

Text: Mark 6:7-44

Title: Deliverance Amidst Opposition

Big Idea: Disciples of Jesus are called to restore and deliver, yet also to face conflict.



I. MISSION (vv. 7-13)

WORD = preaching the gospel, “The time is fulfilled, and the kingdom of God is at hand; repent and believe in the gospel.” (Mark 1:15)

DEED = casting out demons, healing the sick... (ch. 1-6)

He INVITES them to “Come, and see.” And then He SENDS them to “Go, and do.”

Disciple: one who knows God personally and pursues Jesus passionately, modeling everything in their life after the character and priorities of Christ.

“Jesus is leading a new exodus—freeing people from slavery and judgment to serve God.”¹

II. MARTYRDOM (vv. 14-29)

Jesus sends the twelve out on mission and then they return and tell him what they had done and taught (v. 30). In between verses 13 and 30 Mark tells us this account of John’s death. Why?

“Mark sandwiches this account in the middle of the disciples’ first mission; he wants us to see the link between discipleship and death, between mission and martyrdom.”²

And calling the crowd to him with his disciples, he said to them, “If anyone would come after me, let him deny himself and take up his cross and follow me.” (Mark 8:34)

III. MERCY (vv. 30-44)

Just as God provided for and fed his people in the desert in Exodus – here Jesus does the same for this crowd.

Mark is reminding us of the PAST. Mark is also pointing forward to the FUTURE!

22 And as they were eating, he took bread, and after blessing it broke it and gave it to them, and said, “Take; this is my body.” 23 And he took a cup, and when he had given thanks he gave it to them, and they all drank of it. 24 And he said to them, “This is my blood of the covenant, which is poured out for many. 25 Truly, I say to you, I will not drink again of the fruit of the vine until that day when I drink it new in the kingdom of God.” (Mark 14:22-25)

¹ Griffith-Jones, *Explore Mark*

² Ibid.

APPLICATION QUESTIONS

To be used for personal reflection and/or sermon-based small group discussion.

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READ Mark 6:7-44

Is there anything that is difficult to understand in the text, or a question you would like to ask the writer of the passage or the Lord?

Where is Christ in this passage? How does this passage relate to the person, nature, character or work of Christ? Luke 24:44 says all of Scripture is about Christ. So, how does this passage help you see more of who Christ is, what He has done, or allows you to love Him more?

What is the significance of Jesus' instructions to take nothing except a staff, sandals, and one tunic? How does this relate to faith and dependence on God?

How does this passage challenge your own approach to sharing the gospel? In what ways are you relying on God's provision in your life and ministry?

How do you reconcile the fact that John, a faithful servant of God, faced such a tragic end? What does this teach us about suffering and the cost of discipleship?

Why do you think Jesus encouraged the disciples to rest after they returned from their mission? How do you practice rest and renewal in your own life?

How did Jesus respond to the crowd's needs, even though He and the disciples were tired? What does this teach us about compassion and serving others, even when it's inconvenient?

What stands out to you about Jesus' miracle of multiplying the loaves and fish? How does this demonstrate God's ability to provide for us, even when our resources seem insufficient?

PRAY

