

## NEXT STEP: STUDY &amp; SHARE

## READINGS

Ezekiel 2:1-5

Psalm 85:8-13

*I will listen to what the Lord God is saying.*  
(v8)

2 Corinthians 12:2-10

Mark 6:1-16

## PRAYER OF THE DAY

O God, from you come all holy desires, all good counsels, & all just works. Give to us, your servants, that peace which the world cannot give, that our hearts may be set to obey your commandments; & also that we, being defended from the fear of our enemies, may live in peace & quietness, through Jesus Christ, our Savior & Lord. Amen.

## SERMON TEXT- Mark 6:1-16

<sup>1</sup>[Jesus] came to his hometown, & his disciples followed him. <sup>2</sup>On the sabbath he began to teach in the synagogue, & many who heard him were astounded. They said, “Where did this man get all this? What is this wisdom that has been given to him? What deeds of power are being done by his hands! <sup>3</sup>Is not this the carpenter, the son of Mary & brother of James & Joses & Judas & Simon, & are not his sisters here with us?” & they took offense at him. <sup>4</sup>Then Jesus said to them, “Prophets are not without honor, except in their hometown, & among their own kin, & in their own house.” <sup>5</sup>And he could do no deed of power there, except that he laid his hands on a few sick people & cured them. <sup>6</sup>And he was amazed at their unbelief. Then he went about among the villages teaching. <sup>7</sup>He called the twelve & began to send them out two by two, & gave them authority over the unclean spirits. <sup>8</sup>He ordered them to take nothing for their journey except a staff; no bread, no bag, no money in their belts; <sup>9</sup>but to wear sandals & not to put on two tunics. <sup>10</sup>He said to them, “Wherever you enter a house, stay there until you leave the place. <sup>11</sup>If any place will not welcome you & they refuse to hear you, as you leave, shake off the dust that is on your feet as a testimony against them.” <sup>12</sup>So they went out & proclaimed that all should repent. <sup>13</sup>They cast out many demons, & anointed with oil many who were sick & cured them. <sup>14</sup>King Herod heard of [the disciples’ preaching,] for Jesus’ name had become known. Some were saying, “John the baptizer has been raised from the dead; & for this reason these powers are at work in him.” <sup>15</sup>But others said, “It is Elijah.” & others said, “It is a prophet, like one of the prophets of old.” <sup>16</sup>But when Herod heard of it, he said, “John, whom I beheaded, has been raised.”

## LISTENING TO . . .

**GOD-** *Christian life is rooted in the Father, Son, & Holy Spirit*

1. Consider the disciples’ sending as a mirror of Jesus’ own ministry thus far. What connections & parallels do you find? *See also Mark 1:14-15, 13:9-13*
2. We might say that King Herod has a guilty conscience. What connections do you find with John the Baptist’s work (1:1-11, 14, 6:27-29)? What about Elijah (v15; 1 Kings 17:8-24, 18:17-18, 19:8-10, 21:11-19)?

**EACH OTHER-** *Sharing & growing with our brothers & sisters in Christ*

3. What do you think is useful about going two-by-two? *See Deuteronomy 19:15; John 8:12-19, 10:24-38; Colossians 4:8; 1 Thessalonians 3:2, 7, 4:18, 5:11, 14; 2 Timothy 4:2*
4. This comedic article from the Babylon Bee < <https://bit.ly/3pxjks> > makes a sharp point. What holds you back from showing & telling the people of your own household about Jesus?

**NEIGHBORS-** *Bearing fruit for those not yet our brothers & sisters*

5. At the end of the day, other’s belief/faith is not up to us, but to the Holy Spirit (1 Corinthians 12:3). How are vv6, 11 practical advice in the face of unwilling, uninterested, or simply unready listeners? What does your lack of “success” in making a “convert” (ala Billy Graham) have to do with the big picture? *See Joel 2:13; 1 Corinthians 3:5-9; 2 Peter 3:9*
6. It’s been said that nothing much happens in a typical congregation because the members don’t expect (or want!) much of anything to happen (vv12-14, 16:15-20). How would “something happening” affect you & your sense of belonging, control, privilege, influence, & the like? How is that too great of a price to pay (or not) for the Kingdom?

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Seventh Sunday after Pentecost

07.11.21

Series: Power of God

Rev. Jared Stillions, STS

Extends to His Disciples

*Sent in his name, with his power, to accomplish his mission*

-Notes-

KEY VERSE: So they went out & proclaimed that all should repent.  
They cast out many demons, & anointed with oil many who were sick  
& cured them. (*vv12-13*)

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-NEXT STEPS MEMORY VERSE-

May the God of our Lord Jesus Christ enlighten the eyes of our hearts, that  
we may know the hope to which God has called us. (*Ephesians 1:17-18*)

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