

Trusting Jesus is Enough

Matthew 10:1-15 - NCBC, March 29, 2020

Main Point: **Jesus' authority provides more than enough for His followers.**

- It's not about who we are (1-4)
 - The apostles were ordinary people...
 - ...sent out with Jesus' authority

It's about Jesus!
- It's not about what we bring (5-15)
 - Share what Jesus has given you...
 - ...trusting Him for all your needs

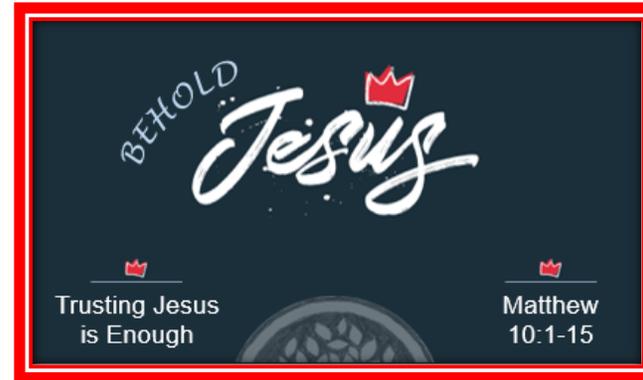
It's about Jesus!

Application: **Humbly trust Jesus while you obey His call and command.**

Opening Announcements:

- **Remember to visit myncbc.org** and follow our NCBC Facebook page to stay informed on all ministry/event updates during this season of sheltering.

<<In Christ Alone>>



The Coronavirus has no power to remove us from Jesus' safe and eternal grip! No matter what powers of hell may come in the days ahead, Jesus is always enough for us!

This is the theme for our worship together as we turn our attention to **Matthew chapter 10**. Please open your Bible and prepare for our Scripture reading.

The red letters we are about to read were spoken by Jesus almost 2,000 years ago. God has preserved these words to give us help and hope, and I believe you will be very encouraged by just how relevant these Scriptures are for today, even as we seek to fulfill our God-given mission during this challenging time.

Loved ones – there's no greater book we can read in these days than the Bible – the Holy Scriptures!! God's words give life, hope, wisdom, and strength. So read the Bible. Read it by yourself, and with your family. Sing the Psalms. A regular diet of God's Word will fuel your prayer life, starve away anxiety, and prevent the ingrown turning of a self-focused life. Listening to God's promises throughout your day will fuel your love for others—even love for those crazy people trapped in the same house as

you right now – and help you keep an eternal perspective of the economic and health trials we are all enduring together.

God is our Shepherd. And He is so good. So thank you for joining our worship today! It's an honor to be able to proclaim the good news of Jesus to you today.

After Matthew has sufficiently demonstrated King Jesus' authority and power in **chapters 8-9, chapter 10** is Jesus' calling and commissioning of the 12 apostles to begin their kingdom ministry as His official representatives.

By **Matthew 10**, Jesus is already a full year into his earthly ministry. He's probably only one and a half or two years at most away from the cross. So as opposition against Him begins to intensify, Jesus now sends out labors into His harvest on His behalf.

Please follow along as I read the first 15 verses of **Matthew chapter 10**, from the English Standard Version:

And he called to him his twelve disciples and gave them authority over unclean spirits, to cast them out, and to heal every disease and every affliction. ²The names of the twelve apostles are these: first, Simon, who is called Peter, and Andrew his brother; James the son of Zebedee, and John his brother; ³Philip and Bartholomew; Thomas and Matthew the tax collector; James the son of Alphaeus, and Thaddaeus; ⁴Simon the Zealot, and Judas Iscariot, who betrayed him.

⁵These twelve Jesus sent out, instructing them, "Go nowhere among the Gentiles and enter no town of the Samaritans, ⁶but go rather to the lost sheep of the house

of Israel. ⁷And proclaim as you go, saying, 'The kingdom of heaven is at hand.' ⁸Heal the sick, raise the dead, cleanse lepers, cast out demons. You received without paying; give without pay. ⁹Acquire no gold or silver or copper for your belts, ¹⁰no bag for your journey, or two tunics or sandals or a staff, for the laborer deserves his food. ¹¹And whatever town or village you enter, find out who is worthy in it and stay there until you depart. ¹²As you enter the house, greet it. ¹³And if the house is worthy, let your peace come upon it, but if it is not worthy, let your peace return to you. ¹⁴And if anyone will not receive you or listen to your words, shake off the dust from your feet when you leave that house or town. ¹⁵Truly, I say to you, it will be more bearable on the day of judgment for the land of Sodom and Gomorrah than for that town.

This is God's Word.

Let's Pray Together.

What the best excuse you've ever heard from a child who doesn't want to go to bed at night?

One of my favorites is, "Daddy, I'm too tired to go to sleep!" Or how about, "I don't think I brushed my teeth enough." Or "There's a bug in my room, and I need you to find it before I can go to sleep!"

But creative excuses are not just limited to bedtimes, are they? Now that we're all in "the great hunkerdown" of 2020, lots of creative kiddos have been dreaming up new excuses to get out of their online homework. Kids, here's a few excuses that you should *not* try at home:

“Mom, I can’t do my homework because I think I’m going to have a cough tomorrow.” Or “I’m waiting to do my homework tomorrow when I’m older and wiser.” Or “My teacher is so busy I’m going to give them a break by not doing homework today.” Creative yes! But sorry kids...these excuses probably won’t work for you!!

Without a doubt, the human heart is masterful at coming up with excuses to try to get us out of our responsibilities. But excuses actually don’t remove our responsibilities, do they? Excuses just make us feel better while we fail to do what is our responsibility to do.

So, as Christians who are living through Coronavirus 2020, what excuses do we tend to make when we neglect our God-appointed kingdom ministry?

Maybe we tell ourselves, “I can’t tell others about Jesus because of social distancing.” Or, “I can’t focus on loving others right now because my first priority is taking care of myself.” Or, “I need to clean up my act more and become a different kind of person before I start telling others about Jesus. After all, Jesus wouldn’t want one of His representatives to live like how I’ve been living lately.” Or “I just don’t know enough about Jesus yet myself to help others get to know Him.”

If we took the time this morning, I’m sure we could fill the chat threads of this video with all kinds of common excuses for why we aren’t the right person for Jesus to send into our shuttered neighborhood as His official representative this week.

When we get into difficult times, we tend to become self-focused. And the more we focus on ourselves, the easier

it is to make excuses for neglecting the kingdom ministry responsibilities Jesus has charged to each of us for such a time as this.

But here’s the good news from **Matthew 10** that pierces right through every one of our self-focused excuses:

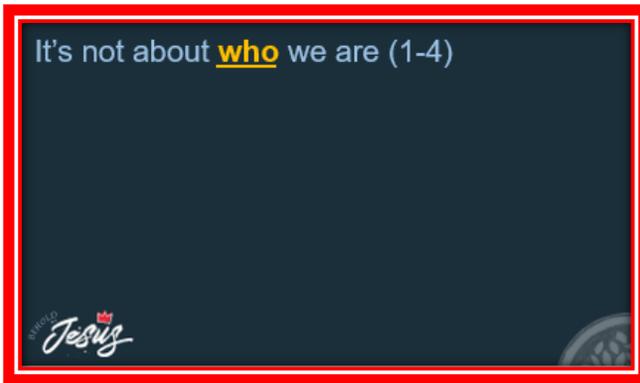


Jesus’ authority provides more than enough for His followers. When you have Jesus’ power – you have everything you need for kingdom ministry in these days!

Our earthly kingdom responsibilities were not given to us based on who we are, or what we bring to the table. God has given each of us the powerful Spirit of Jesus, and His authority and power is more than enough for you and me.

If you personally know Jesus Christ as your Savior and Lord, you have everything you need to follow Him! You are adequately equipped to live and die for Jesus in this Coronavirus season.

So let’s first consider the first four verses of **Matthew 10**, where we can observe that kingdom ministry is,



not about who we are.

After Jesus urged His disciples in **chapter 9 verse 38** to *pray earnestly to the Lord of the harvest to send out laborers into His harvest*, we come to **verse 1 of chapter 10**, where Jesus calls and sends out the 12 apostles as His kingdom ambassadors.

Don't miss this. **Verse 1** is clear – Jesus – the Lord of the Harvest – is sending out 12 men to do exactly what they've seen Him do the last 12-18 months of their lives. These are no small marching orders: Go cast out demons and heal every disease and every affliction!!

In other words – Apostles, I am giving you My power now – My authority – and based on My powerful authority that I'm giving to you, I want you to spread out in pairs, and bring My kingdom into the experience of all of Galilee.

This is quite the ministry assignment! Opposition from the Pharisees was getting hot.¹ The spiritual needs of the people were overwhelming.² So who would Jesus

¹ Matthew 9:34

² Matthew 9:36

commission as His personal agents on this all-important mission?

I believe Satan wants us to view the 12 apostles like some larger-than-life, spiritual super-heroes who are better than us. That way we feel more justified when we don't fulfill our kingdom assignments.

But as we meet the 12 men in **verses 2-4** we discover,



The apostles were ordinary people... just like you and me. Simple, working-class, commoners. Most of the apostles are fairly forgettable – I'm guessing most of us couldn't even recite the names of all 12 apostles from memory!

Jesus chose 12 apostles corresponding to the 12 tribes of Israel.³ These men would now serve as Jesus' appointed leaders of His church—the new and true Israel of faith.⁴

³ C.f. Luke 22:29-30; Revelation 21:14

⁴ Romans 2:29, 4:16; Galatians 6:16

To be sure, in God's kingdom program, these 12 apostles forever hold an exalted place.⁵ But that doesn't diminish the reality that these 12 men were quite unlike picks.

Because here's the point: God delights in using weak people like you and me to accomplish His kingdom purposes!⁶ Our kingdom mission is not about who we are! It's all about Jesus' power at work in and through us!!

So **verses 2-4** personally introduce us to each apostle...to help us see them as normal human-beings who we can relate with. As we briefly consider each apostle, may our confidence increase in Jesus' authority, which enabled such unlikely people to turn the world upside down with His gospel of salvation by grace alone!⁷

First, in **verse 2**, we meet *Simon who is called Peter*. Simon is listed first as the chief leader among all the apostles.⁸ He was an outspoken and impulsive fisherman whom Jesus nicknamed Rocky, or Peter,⁹ to remind him to be a sure and trustworthy leader for His church.¹⁰

Peter saw thousands of souls converted through his preaching.¹¹ However, his younger brother *Andrew*, was

natured quite differently. He wasn't wimpy;¹² he just preferred one-on-one situations, and was content to be in the background.

So don't think that God can't use you in kingdom ministry if you can't speak in front of a crowd! Andrew is the one who introduced Peter to Jesus.¹³ In fact, Scripture repeatedly shows Andrew bringing individuals to Jesus.¹⁴

The two sons of Zebedee – *James and John* are next. Although these two men were also fishermen, Zebedee's family was wealthy and well-known.¹⁵ So James and John were privileged children who were used to getting what they wanted.

Jesus nicknamed James and John, *the Sons of Thunder*,¹⁶ because they were so intense and full of passion.¹⁷ James was ambitious, once even using his mom to ask Jesus for the best throne in His coming kingdom.¹⁸

While hot-headed James was the first apostle to be martyred,¹⁹ his younger brother John was the only apostle

⁵ Ephesians 2:20; Revelation 21:14

⁶ 1 Corinthians 1:26-31

⁷ Acts 17:6

⁸ C.f. Matthew 16:17-19; Here is the precedent for "first-among-equals" within spiritual leadership teams; c.f. 1 Timothy 5:17

⁹ John 1:42; Luke 6:14; The Aramaic equivalent of Peter is "Cephas," c.f. 1 Corinthians 1:12; 3:22; 9:5; 15:5; Galatians 2:9

¹⁰ Whenever Jesus addressed him as "Simon," it often signaled that Peter was living according to his pre-conversion mannerisms: Luke 5:5, 22:31; Mark 14:37-38; John 21:3, 15-17.

¹¹ C.f. Acts 2:41; 4:4

¹² Andrew was also a fisherman, like Peter – Matthew 4:18-19

¹³ John 1:41-42

¹⁴ C.f. John 6:9; 12:20-22

¹⁵ I.e. Mark 1:20 indicates that he employed multiple hired servants, and John 18:15-16 reminds us that Zebedee's entire family had enough status to be known personally by the high priest in Jerusalem

¹⁶ Mark 3:17

¹⁷ Once he asked Jesus if he should command fire to come down from heaven to punish the Samaritans for their inhospitable reception of Jesus, Luke 9:51-56; c.f. 2 Kings 1:10-17ff

¹⁸ Matthew 20:20-24; The mother of James and John was Salome (Matthew 27:56 and Mark 16:1)

¹⁹ Acts 12:1-3; When Herod Agrippa I decided it was time to stop the church's growth approximately 12 years after Jesus' resurrection, he first determined to have the apostle James beheaded.

to live to old age, dying in exile²⁰ with the reputation as the apostle of love.²¹

This is a testimony to God's grace in John's life, since John was a truth person – a very black-and-white person. John once condemned a man for ministering in Jesus' name because he wasn't part of their group.²²

And yet, this John was the one whom Jesus loved,²³ and to whom Jesus entrusted His own mother while He was dying on the cross.²⁴

Do you see that the apostles were just ordinary people who were willing to be sent with Jesus' authority?

Philip the accountant is next. All four biblical lists of the Apostles²⁵ present Philip as a sort of group leader,²⁶ and John's gospel suggests Philip was the group's administrator and chief organizer.²⁷

²⁰ Revelation 1:9

²¹ 1 John 4:7

²² Mark 9:38

²³ John 13:23

²⁴ John 19:27; Several witnesses in early church history record that John never left Jerusalem or the care of Mary until she died.

²⁵ Matthew 10:2-4; Mark 3:16-19; Luke 6:13-16; Acts 1:13

²⁶ From John MacArthur's book, *Twelve Ordinary Men*: Interestingly, when you compare all four biblical lists of the apostles, the twelve are arranged into 3 groups of 4. Group 1 always has Peter at the head of the list, and that group always includes Andrew, James, and John. Group 2 always features Philip first and includes Bartholomew, Matthew, and Thomas. Group 3 is always led by James the son of Alphaeus, and it includes Simon the Zealot, Judas Lebbaeus whose surname was Thaddaeus, and finally Judas Iscariot. The groups appear to be in descending order based on their level of intimacy with Christ.

²⁷ John 6:6, 10; 12:20-21; 14:8

Philip was all about processes and protocols. He wasn't decisive, and often struggled to see how Jesus was going to connect all the dots. Philip was a pragmatic pessimist.

Bartholomew, Philip's ministry partner, also goes by the name Nathanael in the Gospels.²⁸ He was a farmer²⁹ who was a serious student of Scripture.³⁰

Next comes *Thomas* the twin.³¹ While we don't know who his twin was, we do know Thomas was a negative and moody person. A worry-wart. Even though some have called him "Doubting Thomas,"³² his greatest problem was just seeing the worst in everything.³³ When Jesus told the disciples He was leaving for Bethany after Lazarus' death, it was Thomas who said, "Let's go die with Him!"³⁴

Matthew the tax collector comes next, the most despised traitor to his own Jewish people. This disloyal crook got rich off his exorbitant taxation for Rome. But we know from his gospel that Matthew had an amazing mind. He quotes

²⁸ John 1:49-50

²⁹ Bartholomew literally means, Son of Tolmai, or Son of the Furrows, likely indicating that Bartholomew was a son of a plowman or farmer; John 21:2 also says Nathanael came from the small town of Cana of Galilee which was a highly agricultural area.

³⁰ In John 1:49 when Nathanael responded in faith to Jesus, he quotes from Psalm 2, Zephaniah 3:15; Zechariah 9:9, and Micah 5:2. This man knew his Old Testament prophecy, and was quick to believe that Jesus was the Messiah when confronted with His omniscience! (John 1:48)

³¹ John 11:16; 20:24

³² Mostly because of his unwillingness to believe in Jesus' resurrection when he missed his upper room appearance in John 20:19-25

³³ For example, in John 14:5, Thomas clearly is concerned that the rest of the apostles will never to be able to go on or figure out how to follow Jesus if He leaves them, etc.

³⁴ John 11:16

the Old Testament 99 times, which is more Scripture quotations than **Mark, Luke** and **John** combined!

Without a doubt, Jesus chooses all kinds of people! In fact, the last four apostles in the list are quite obscure:

James the son of Alphaeus was also known as James the Less,³⁵ or James the “little guy.” The only thing we know about this man is that his father was named Alphaeus,³⁶ and his mother was a follower of Jesus named Mary.³⁷

Then we meet *Thaddaeus*, who is actually the apostle with three different names. **John 14:22** calls him *Judas, not Iscariot*. So his true name was probably Judas, but he was known best by two nicknames. *Lebbaeus*, which means “heart-child,” or *Thaddaeus*, which means “breast-child.” Both of these nicknames convey the same idea – Judas was a tender-hearted “momma’s boy.”

He’s quite different from *Simon the Zealot* listed next. This freedom fighter was an extreme Jewish patriot who would go to any means to overthrow the Romans. Zealots were basically terrorists – they would carry around small curved daggers looking for any opportunity to dispose of a Roman soldier or a tax collector in their zeal to restore Israel to Jewish rule.

So let this sink in. Simon the Zealot and Matthew the tax collector were both hand-picked by Jesus as His apostles! It’s not about who we used to be, and it’s not about who we are! What matters is simply whether we are submitted to

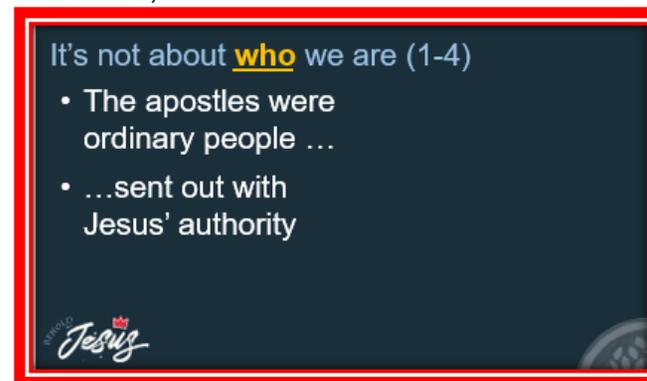
³⁵ Mark 15:40

³⁶ Interestingly, Matthew the tax-collector’s father was also Alphaeus, according to Mark 2:14. So it is possible, although impossible to prove, that Levi or Matthew and James the less were brothers.

Jesus as Lord, for Jesus’ authority provides more than enough for His followers.

Of course the last apostle, *Judas Iscariot, who betrayed him*, was as ordinary as the others, with just one significant difference. He never submitted himself to the Lordship of Jesus. Although he was close to Jesus, his heart remained controlled by greed,³⁸ lies,³⁹ and eventually Satan himself.⁴⁰

So after meeting all 12 apostles, we must conclude that ministry isn’t about personality, or politics, or position, or prestige. These apostles were simply ordinary people who were,



...sent out with Jesus’ authority.

These were weak people controlled by God’s strong power. These were ordinary people who represented an extraordinary Kingdom authority. Therefore, for disciple-makers today living in the midst of a global pandemic, it’s not about who we are,

³⁷ Matthew 27:56; Mark 15:40.

³⁸ Matthew 26:4-5

³⁹ John 12:6

⁴⁰ John 13:2

It's not about who we are (1-4)

- The apostles were ordinary people ...
- ...sent out with Jesus' authority

It's about Jesus!

Jesus

It's all about Jesus! The Spirit of Christ Himself is in us to empower our kingdom ministry in our neighborhoods this week. Jesus alone has the authority and power to heal sickness, forgive sins, and cast out demons. We don't have that power...but Jesus does!

Remember, Jesus prayed all night before sending out the apostles – not because He didn't know who to pick,⁴¹ but because He knew how weak they were!⁴²

So take heart as you labor in prayer and love this week... Kingdom ministry is never dependent upon who we are... it's whose power we possess.⁴³

Even though none of us are apostles today,⁴⁴ we are still King Jesus' ambassadors to this world.⁴⁵

⁴¹ God's will was no mystery to Jesus. Instead this was an entire night spend in intercessory prayer on behalf of the disciples He would commission to be the 12 apostles, the leaders of His Church.

⁴² Luke 6:12-16

⁴³ 1 Corinthians 4:20

⁴⁴ Biblically speaking, an official apostle had to have seen the risen Christ (1 Corinthians 9:1; 1 Peter 1:8) and fellowshiped with Him on earth (Acts

So be encouraged brother and sister – it's not about you with all your weakness and failures. Your kingdom ministry is all about Jesus and His all-powerful grace!

Verses 5-15 go on now to assure us that our kingdom ministry is,

It's not about what we bring (5-15)

Jesus

not about what we bring, but rather about what we have been given.

Verses 5-15 give marching orders for the twelve. These are direct orders from the Lord of the harvest to the workers He is sending on His behalf.

And the first thing we notice in **verses 5-6** is that Jesus restricts the apostle's initial ministry to their home region of Jewish Galilee:

1:21-22). He had to be chosen specifically by the Lord (Ephesians 4:11), and manifest the miraculous signs of an apostle (Hebrews 2:3-4; 2 Corinthians 12:12). Therefore no believer today has apostolic authority, for the Apostles and their Divine revelation (Ephesians 3:4-5; 2 Peter 1:21) laid the foundation of the church (Ephesians 2:20)

⁴⁵ John 17:18, 20:21; 2 Corinthians 5:20

Go nowhere among the Gentiles and enter no town of the Samaritans, but go rather to the lost sheep of the house of Israel.

Jesus' kingdom must be announced to the Jews first, and then the Gentiles.⁴⁶ This is God's kingdom program. From **Genesis chapter 12**, God had promised that all the nations of the world would be blessed *through the Jews*.⁴⁷ Salvation comes from the Jews!⁴⁸

After Israel rejects their King, Jesus will send these same apostles to all the nations of the world.⁴⁹ But for now He wants them to start right here at home with their own Jewish brethren.

Now by application, there's a lesson for us today. All of the twelve apostles were Jewish, and they were all from this greater region of Galilee. So effectively, Jesus was saying, start your ministry with your friends and family – with those who personally know your past... before you pursue ministry to strangers.

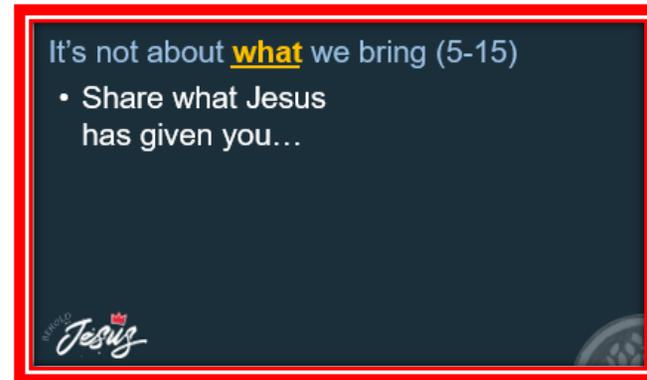
James and John – you have quite a reputation down in the fishyards... why don't you start showing others my power there? Matthew, I'm sending you to declare My kingdom power to the exact same people you were cheating just a couple years ago.

And while you are interacting with all these people who know you best... keep preaching, *The Kingdom of heaven is at hand*.

⁴⁶ Romans 1:16; 2:9-10; 1:8; c.f. Pauls' practice in Acts 13:46

⁴⁷ Genesis 12:1-3; c.f. Israel is the light for all nations - Isaiah 42:6; 49:6; 60:3

In other words, your kingdom ministry is not about who you are, or what reputation you bring to the table.



Simply share with others what Jesus has given you...

Share the good news of how the Lordship of Jesus has transformed your own life!

Jesus has all authority and power in the universe!⁵⁰ He is able to forgive sins and deliver souls from Satan's grasp. Only repent from your sins and believe that He is Lord!

You see, if you have been born again, you can't say you don't know how to evangelize the lost. All you need to do is share what Jesus has given you!

Tell others how Jesus died to pay for your sins, and rose again to give a brand new life! There's no good excuse! If you have Jesus' power, you have everything you need for kingdom ministry.

⁴⁸ John 4:22

⁴⁹ Matthew 28:18-20; Acts 1:8

⁵⁰ Daniel 7:13-14; Matthew 28:18

After all, it was Jesus' authority that gave the apostles the power to heal the sick, raise the dead, cleanse lepers, and cast out demons. The apostles were simply sharing with others what Jesus had given them.

Look at the end of **verse 8**,

You received without paying; give without pay.

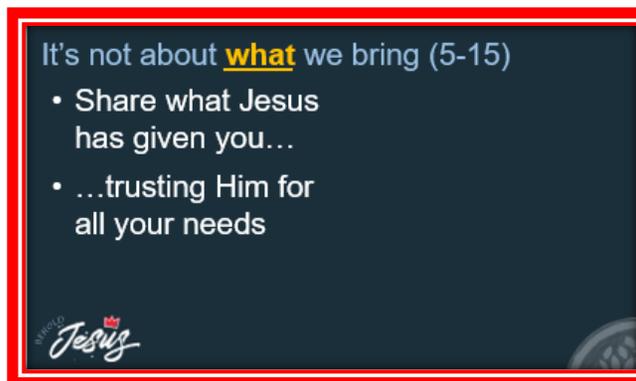
In other words:

You did nothing to earn everything Jesus has blessed you with...so now go and freely share with others all that Jesus has done for you!

Don't hoard God's grace. And don't profit from God's grace.⁵¹

Jesus didn't give us forgiveness and His kingdom blessings for our own sake.⁵² Jesus' blesses sinners so we would bless all the nations of the world for His glory!⁵³

So share freely whatever Jesus has given you,



...trusting Him for all your needs

Jesus goes right for the money in **verses 9-10**. Because God knows how our handling of money shows us where we really find our security.⁵⁴

In these threatening times of COVID-19, here's what Jesus is doing: He's saying, keep preaching the goodness of My Lordship while you trust me for all your physical and financial needs. Your mission is urgent, and must not be hindered by your concern for your own financial security.

You can trust King Jesus to provide you with everything you need when you need it. The laborer deserves His food, and the Lord of the Harvest can be trusted to feed His harvest workers.

Some may object... but doesn't the "Proverbs Ant" teach us to save for trouble?⁵⁵ Shouldn't I be a good steward

⁵¹ Isn't it interesting that so many who believe that the sign-gifts are still active in the church today seek to profit off of their healing powers of faith today? This is not the Spirit of the Lord of the Harvest.

⁵² 1 Corinthians 4:7; c.f. Psalm 115:1

⁵³ Psalm 67

⁵⁴ Matthew 6:21

⁵⁵ Proverbs 6:6-8

and take care of my own needs before I try to serve others?⁵⁶

Church, while there are some amazing exceptions right here in our own church family, I'm sadly convinced that the high majority of us have smugly mortgaged our kingdom ministry for the sake of the abundance of our own possessions.⁵⁷ We must always set our hopes on God, not on the uncertainty of riches!⁵⁸ Jesus alone is enough!

*Be not dismayed whate'er betide, God will take care of you!*⁵⁹

There's one final way that this Scripture teaches us to trust Jesus for all our needs, and that's in **verses 11-15** where Jesus teaches the apostles to carefully discern whether people are receptive to His kingdom or not. Because here's the reality – not everyone is going to respond well to kingdom ministry.

Some will prove themselves unworthy and resistant to God's grace. And for such people Jesus taught the apostles to shake off the dust of their feet ... which was a cultural way of saying that the apostles must consider such people to be unbelievers – no better than the pagan Gentile nations around them. But then, look carefully at **verse 15**,

⁵⁶ Remember biblical stewardship is defined as sacrificial generosity, not the preservation of assets. 1 Timothy 5:8 is not a call to self-preservation or self-accumulation, but rather for sharing sacrificially with those closest to you first before asking other believers to lend aid for those under your care.

⁵⁷ Luke 12:15; Hebrews 13:5; c.f. Luke 12:13-21

Truly I say to you, it will be more bearable on the day of judgment for the land of Sodom and Gomorrah than for that town.

In other words, harvest workers can depend on Jesus to finally judge anyone who mistreats us or takes advantage of us while we're pursuing Jesus' kingdom ministry here on earth. We don't have to take our own revenge. We can leave room for God's wrath,⁶⁰ while we continue to sacrificially share with others what Jesus has given to us.

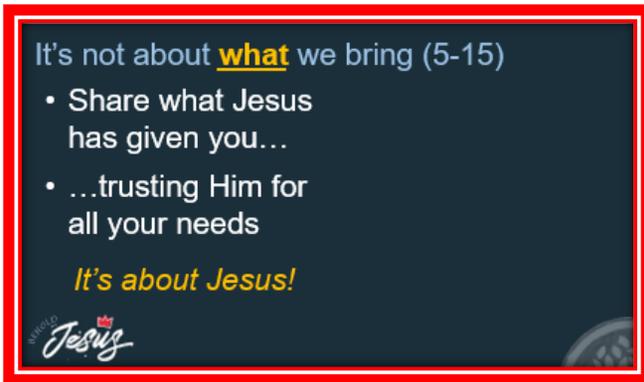
Listen, there is a serious judgment day coming for every person... no one will be able to escape it. And on that day Jesus' authority and power will make everything right. In the meantime, we have been sent out as Jesus' laborers into His harvest field... for such a time as this...when our neighbors are facing deeper financial and health crises than our generation has ever seen.

We don't go in the strength of our own reputation or our own resources or our own revenge. No. Our kingdom ministry is,

⁵⁸ 1 Timothy 6:17

⁵⁹ Lyrics from classic hymn, "God Will Take Care of You", written by Civilla D Martin in 1904.

⁶⁰ Romans 12:18-21



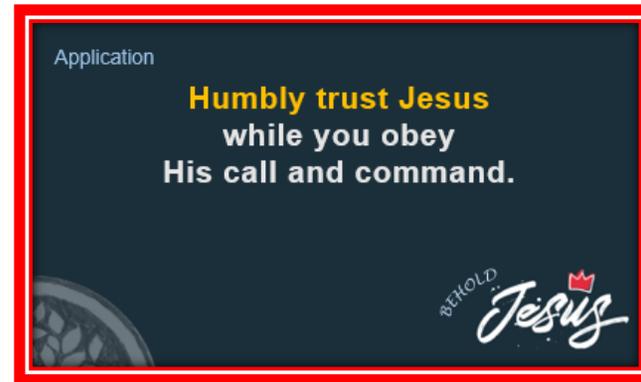
All about Jesus!

God has us each living in the community we're living in this week to help others receive everything that Jesus has already given to us!



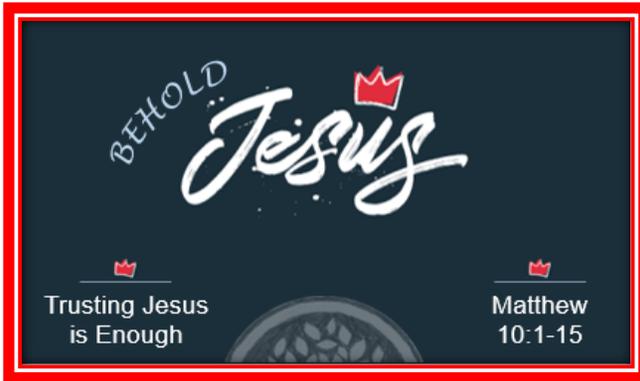
His authority and power provides more than enough for all of us followers. Do you believe this? As our nation begins to realize the profound fragility of human health and financial resources in deeper ways, are you prepared to fulfill the kingdom ministry that the Lord of the Harvest has sent you to accomplish?

Dear brother and sister, may you



Humbly trust Jesus while you obey His call and command this week. There's nothing special about you, and there's certainly nothing special about me. But we have been sent out with Jesus' authority and power. The Spirit of the Living Christ is with us! No virus can take His Spirit from us. There's no good excuse for failing in His mission. God has His children on the earth for such a time as this.

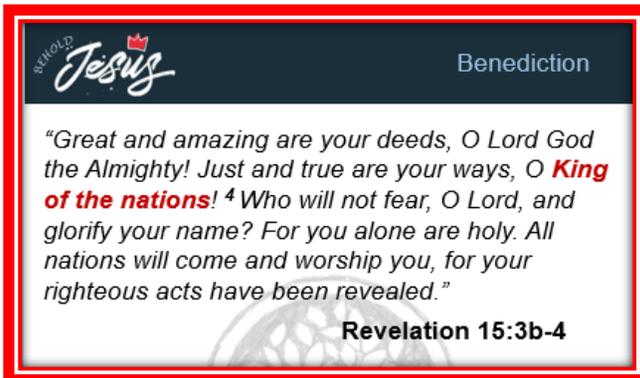
May we be praying with humble dependence for all our needs. May we be filling our mind with God's Word, so we know exactly how our Lord would have us respond in every moment. And may we be obeying His call and His command – to love our neighbors as we love ourselves, while we generously share with them everything Jesus has first given to us.



Let's pray.

<<Yet Not I But Through Christ in Me>>

Let's pray our benediction together as we dismiss.



Great and amazing are your deeds, O Lord God the Almighty! Just and true are your ways, O King of the nations! Who will not fear, O Lord, and glorify your name? For you alone are holy. All nations will come and worship you, for your righteous acts have been revealed.
Revelation 15:3b-4

Recommended Resources on Trusting Jesus is Enough:

- Proverbs 3:5-6
- Daniel 7:13-14
- Zechariah 4:6
- Matthew 4:18-22; 28:18, 20
- Mark 3:13-19
- Luke 6:40
- John 15:16
- Acts 4:13
- 1 Corinthians 1:26-31; 15:27
- 2 Corinthians 12:9
- Ephesians 1:21
- 1 Peter 5:8-9

- <https://www.gotquestions.org/twelve-apostles-disciples-12.html>
- <https://www.desiringgod.org/labs/faith-is-more-precious-than-life>

- *Twelve Ordinary Men*, John MacArthur
- *The Training of the Twelve*, A.B. Bruce
- *Trusting God*, Jerry Bridges

Growing Deeper: Life Group Questions

1. Review Matthew 10:2-4. Which of the 12 disciples is your favorite in the New Testament? Explain and share together.
2. Compare Matthew 10:1, 8 with 4:23 and 9:35. What is the significance of Jesus authorizing His disciples to do exactly what He Himself had been doing the last year? How does the ministry of the Holy Spirit (the Spirit of Christ) in you empower you to continue Jesus' ministry today?
3. Compare Matthew 10:5-6 with 28:19-20. Why did Jesus send out the apostles to different people at different times?
4. Compare Matthew 10:9-10 with Luke 22:35-38. Why did Jesus discourage the disciples from making preparations for their Jewish mission? Explain the different contexts in Jesus' instruction in these verses.
5. Read 1 Corinthians 1:26-31. Do you believe you are too ordinary or unlikely to be used by God in extraordinary ways? What would it look like for you to trust that Jesus Himself was enough for you to completely follow Him this week? This year? This decade?