

Trial run

- Review
- Matthew 10:5-15
 - Parallel Mark 6:7-13
 - Parallel Luke 9:1-5
 - Harmony of the Gospels
- When a new vessel is ready, it is sent on a sea trial (trial run)
- The trained disciples are sent out to preach the Gospel, to heal and cast out demons
 - Matt - The kingdom of heaven is at hand
 - Mark - People should repent
 - Luke - To proclaim the kingdom of God
- Jesus commissions them because he is the King of his kingdom
 - Sent out - verb same root word as noun apostle (he deputized them)
 - As his emissaries, his ambassadors, his personal representatives.
 - Mark - Two by two
 - Every fact is to be confirmed by 2 witnesses
 - Peter and John
 - Paul and Barnabas
 - Paul and Silas
 - Barnabas and John Mark
 - Mutual help and encouragement
 - He individually selected each pair (Mark)
 - Marvelous diversity - fishermen, a tax collector, a zealot, a betrayer
 - "The Chosen"
 - He gave them power and his full authority (the right and the responsibility) over demons and sickness
 - Commission -
 - Proclaim the Kingdom and heal and cast out demons
 - They ministered to both spiritual and physical needs
 - The miracles were to confirm the Gospel. They were not an end in and of themselves.
- The travel instructions are unique:
- Bread, bag, money, 2 tunics - represents a secure life
- No contradiction (apparent contradictions are only apparent)

- **Matt** - Acquire no gold or silver or copper for your belts, no bag for your journey, or two tunics or **sandals or a staff**.
- **Mark** - He charged them to take nothing for their journey **except a staff**—no bread, no bag, no money in their belts, **but to wear sandals** and not put on two tunics.
- **Luke** - Take nothing for your journey, **no staff**, nor bag, nor bread, nor money; and do not have two tunics.
- Easy resolution - do not take baggage and do not acquire NEW or additional ones.
- These items echo the Exodus from Egypt
 - Peace
 - Defenselessness
 - Trust in God
 - Urgency
- Their provisions are to be provided by those who listen and repent
 - The disciples were to trust the Lord for their support. He is faithful and always will be.
 - Those who received the gospel were to generously support the herald
 - What a small "thank you" for the message of eternal life.
 - Individuals, homes, and towns (reverse of the rejection in Nazareth)
- They were to carefully select where they stayed, but stay there:
 - Who is worthy? Not deserving, but agreeable to hear the message.
- They went into the villages of Israel (not the Gentiles or Samaria)
 - Jesus did not forbid them from preaching the Gospel to gentiles if they encountered them.
 - Jesus himself has already responded to gentile faith.
 - The gentiles were not excluded from the Gospel, just not yet.
 - Jesus did not explain why they should not go to the gentiles, He just commanded it.
- Preached the Gospel (Luke)
 - They proclaimed that people should repent (Mark)
 - Cast out many demons (Mark)
 - Anointed with oil (James 5:14-15) oil represents the power of the Holy Spirit
 - The Gospel was the main message. The miracles were to authenticate the message.
- Freely you have received, freely give
 - The disciples received the gospel at no cost, they were to pass it on freely
 - Jesus did not charge tuition
 - They were permitted to accept basic support, but no more
 - Eternal life is a free gift
- The message of the gospel and the kingdom is also a message of judgement:

- If the house is worthy let your peace remain, but if not let your peace return to you.
 - Prince of Peace
 - The Gospel is the gospel of peace
 - Peace comes from repentance and reconciliation
 - **Luke 2:14** - Glory to God in the highest, and on earth peace among those with whom He is pleased!"
- The test of judgment -
 - Did they listen to you?
 - Did they receive you?
- Shake off the dust from your feet -
 - **Luke 10:10-11** - But whenever you enter a town and they do not receive you, go into its streets and say, 'Even the dust of your town that clings to our feet we wipe off against you. Nevertheless know this, that the kingdom of God has come near.' (you had your chance)
 - Jews who returned from Gentile regions shook the dust from their feet.
 - Actually, the dust on their garments that had been kicked up by their feet
 - Paul shook of the dust from Antioch - **Acts 13:50-52** - 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. But they shook off the dust from their feet against them and went to Iconium. And the disciples were filled with joy and with the Holy Spirit.
 - **Acts 18:6** - Every Sabbath he reasoned in the synagogue, trying to persuade Jews and Greeks alike. And when Silas and Timothy came down from Macedonia, Paul devoted himself fully to the word, testifying to the Jews that Jesus is the Christ. But when they opposed and insulted him, he shook out his garments and told them, "Your blood be on your own heads! I am innocent of it. From now on I will go to the Gentiles."
 - There is no human militancy. God is the final judge. They are left accountable to God.
 - More tolerable for Sodom and Gomorrah
 - Those 2 cities were judged without warning by God himself with utmost severity.
 - People who reject Christ's gracious, saving Gospel will face a fate worse than those depraved pagans killed by divine judgement in those 2 OT cities.
 - Those who believe and repent are rewarded. Those who disbelieve are judged sentenced. In the Gospel of the Kingdom of God, attempted neutrality is disbelief and hostility. *"Whoever is not for me is against me."*
- **Mark 6:30** - the twelve returned to Jesus and told him all that they had done and taught.
 - They returned alive and well, with good news to report.
 - God provided and God worked.
- What about us?

- Perhaps you are called to a short-term mission.
- **Ephesians 4:11-12a** - And he gave the apostles, the prophets, the evangelists, the shepherds and teachers, to equip the saints for the work of ministry...
- Who are the saints?
 - Catholic background?
 - **1 Corinthians 1:2** - To the church of God that is in Corinth, to those sanctified in Christ Jesus, called to be saints together with all those who in every place call upon the name of our Lord Jesus Christ, both their Lord and ours:
 - **Philippians 4:2** - All the saints greet you
- Marc and Dave's ministry is to equip you to do the work of the ministry.
 - Small group leaders
 - NorthRidge Elementary Volunteers
 - Children's Teachers
 - Evangelism
- Pastor's frustration at the expectation placed upon him,
- *You* have been called to the ministry.
 - Reluctance to go and minister
 - What if I cannot answer a question?
 - Fear of rejection
 - Making mistakes (faux pax)
 - The glory is not yours
- Shout out - Phoenix and Casey