

Series: Who is this man?  
Sermon title: *Jesus calls & Jesus sends*  
**“Summer of HOPE”** launch  
Mark 6:7-13  
Clearwater Bay International Baptist Church  
June 11, 2017  
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Well, summer is here. Let's make it count for Christ! Whether you are spending the summer away, in and out of Hong Kong or staying here and doing what you always do.....let's make this summer count for Christ and his kingdom. Let's not 'throw in the towel', but let's throw out the nets.

Turn in your Bible to [Mark](#) chapter [6](#) and we will read verses [7-13](#).

[7](#) And he called the twelve and began to send them out two by two, and gave them authority over the unclean spirits. [8](#) He charged them to take nothing for their journey except a staff—no bread, no bag, no money in their belts— [9](#) but to wear sandals and not put on two tunics. [10](#) And he said to them, “Whenever you enter a house, stay there until you depart from there. [11](#) And if any place will not receive you and they will not listen to you, when you leave, shake off the dust that is on your feet as a testimony against them.” [12](#) So they went out and proclaimed that people should repent. [13](#) And they

cast out many demons and anointed with oil many who were sick and healed them.

To be called by Jesus is to be sent by Jesus. As we saw in [Mark 3:13-19](#) many weeks ago, the most basic meaning of what it means to be a disciple or follower of Jesus is:

to Be with Jesus {and}  
to Be sent out *by* Jesus.

**13 And he went up on the mountain and called to him those whom he desired, and they came to him. 14 And he appointed twelve (whom he also named apostles) so that they might be with him and he might send them out to preach.**

Now, no Christian can say that they aren't sent by Jesus. You ARE sent somewhere to bear witness to the truth of who Jesus is. If you are called, you're sent.

I want to mention a few things about the text today to give us some fuel for our fire. Then I want to lay out and challenge us to use this summer to share HOPE with our family members, neighbors, co-workers and friends.

In the book of Mark we have been seeing Jesus' glory. We have seen him teach with authority, we have seen him heal. We have seen that he has power over nature, power over demons, power over disease and power over death.

We have also seen him be **rejected** by many. The religious leaders said he was possessed by the devil. His family said he was crazy. A town on the other side of the lake asked him to leave town. His hometown of Nazareth tried to push him off of a cliff and {as we saw last week} they were so offended and embarrassed by him that he couldn't do very much in his hometown.

**Some people believe in him.**  
**Some people reject him.**

In light of his rejection, he sends out the twelve; a kind of pre-mission and training for what they'll do later after he dies, is buried, is raised to life again and ascends to heaven.

Let's take a look at the text in [Mark 6:7-13](#) and see how Jesus sends them.

- **Sent them out 2x2.** Not alone but in community, fellowship and accountability.
- **Sent them with the authority of Jesus.** They have no authority themselves to do *anything*. They go in Jesus' name. As [Matthew 28:18](#) says, "All authority in heaven and on earth has been given to me. Go, therefore..."
- **Sent them out totally dependent on God.** They are not to rely on their stuff; don't beg for money, don't take food...God will provide. Don't wear 2 tunics {like saying, 'Don't take a blanket'}. The meaning is that

God will provide a place to stay inside. No need for an extra tunic. They won't have to sleep outside. They are to be dependent on God. Cause they ARE, whether they think they are or not.

- **Sent them to homes and people already prepared by God.** As Matthew show us in his account in chapter 10, they are going to walk into a town and they'll be some people in that town who will be welcoming to them. They'll have a sense of peace about this home that they enter and they'll stay there. God has prepared this household to hear and receive them. Who is God preparing in your neighborhood?
- **Sent them to some- who will reject them.** There will be those who won't receive but they'll reject. They won't hear. They'll not listen. Jesus says, 'Leave and shake off the dust that is on your feet as a testimony against them.' Those are hard words. Here's the truth: They are not rejecting the disciples and they're not rejecting you and me. They are rejecting God. That's not funny in the least. We should pray. We should weep if they reject God.
- **Sent to proclaim repentance.**  
To proclaim.  
To speak out.  
Speak out about what?  
That people should TURN from sin and TURN to Jesus.

As 1 Peter 2:9-10 says,

9 But you are a chosen race, a royal priesthood, a holy nation, a people for his own possession, **that you may proclaim the excellencies of him who called you out of darkness into his marvelous light.** 10 Once you were not a people, but now you are God's people; once you had not received mercy, but now you have received mercy.

So, let's do some proclaiming this summer. Share the hope of Jesus with our family, neighbors, co-workers and friends. We will call it a **SUMMER OF HOPE.**

\*Here is what I am asking you to do:

- Offer **HOSPITALITY** to family, neighbors, co-workers and friends who are unbelievers. Simply invite someone into your home (preferably) for dinner or coffee/dessert. How someone does it is entirely up to them. To have someone into your home today is rare, but it is meaningful. People enter the kingdom mostly through the peer door not the public door. Not usually by walking into the front door of CBIBC but by walking into our lives. People who are opposed to church are not opposed to dinner or coffee. **“The front door of your home is the side door to the church.”**
- It is **OUTREACH**. It is not just to eat. It is **NOT** to invite church members over. Please don't invite church members! It is **NOT** to invite people you eat

with regularly. It is to reach out to the unchurched in your village, complex or with someone from work.

- There's a **PURPOSE**. The purpose is to see them come to know Jesus, find eternal life, be rescued from their sin.
- Their ultimate purpose is **EXALTATION**.....glory to God...praise to God....the magnification of our great God. The angels rejoice in heaven over one sinner who repents!

**HOPE**: a summer of **HOPE**.

- Hospitality
- Outreach
- Purpose
- Exaltation

A couple of practical things:

1. **Pray in the days leading up** to the time together. Ask God to show up in some way while you spend time together. Expect God to show up.

As Cameron Townsend said, *"We must do the possible. God will do the impossible."*

2. **Pray for the meal.**

People will want to say something like this:

*“As you know, we are Christians and we have a custom where we pray before our meal. Many people in the world don’t have food to eat and we know that only by God’s goodness do we have this food. So, we would like to say thanks.”*

Sample prayer:

*“Almighty God and heavenly Father, we thank you that you provide all good things for us. We know we don’t deserve your many blessings and we thank you for taking care of all of our needs.*

*Father we thank you for our friends \_\_\_\_\_ and that they could be in our home tonight. Thank you for this wonderful food. Bless it to our bodies and bless our time together,  
We know that you hear our prayers because we pray to you through Jesus’ Christ. Amen*

3. I will encourage people **not to send the kids away**, but to have them participate.

4. It’s not a one time thing...like a box to check off. We will want to continue to invest in these people. It’s **building relationships, not doing a project.**

5. It would be good to **memorize and meditate on the gospel** beforehand. If they ask you for a reason for the HOPE that you have, you can share. It’s easier to share if you have deposited it in your heart and mind.

Jesus has called us. Now, GO in Jesus' name.

- Go with the **authority** of Jesus.
- Go **dependent** on God for everything. We are weak and fragile people. God is great.
- Go and use your **home** for ministry.
- Go knowing that some will **receive** you and some will **reject** you. Remember, they are rejecting Christ not us- so pray, pray, pray they don't reject Christ.
- Go **proclaiming repentance** of sin through Jesus Christ.