



Who is this man?

Exploring the impact of Jesus

Who Is This Man...Who Gives Power & Sends Us Out?

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Speaker: Kat Densham & Adam Pipe

Key Verses: Mark 6:7-13

Talk Summary:

Jesus had set apart the Twelve so that he could send them out as his representatives. They had spent time with Jesus, learnt from him and seen him work in great power. Now it was time for them to do the stuff.

1. His Call (6:7)

- a. **Began but Still Sending - 'Began'** (archo) to send out the twelve. Jesus is still sending out his disciples today. Jesus is sending us out and we are called to: Be with Jesus - Become like Jesus - Do what Jesus did.
- b. **Sent as Ambassadors - 'Send them out'** *Apostello* from which we get our word apostle. We are all apostles, we are all missionaries. Some of us are called to go to a different country/culture but most of us are called to our workplace, our family, our neighbourhood...where we do life. To the place we will be on Monday morning. *Apostello: send forth, commission, send as an ambassador*

Ambassador: an important official who works in a foreign country representing his or her own country there. We are ambassadors of King Jesus and the Kingdom of God. We represent him in the place to which we are appointed. You are King Jesus' ambassador in your neighbourhood, your workplace, university or college, your family. This should radically transform our identity and the way we live.

- c. **Sent with Full Authority** - Verse 7 says that as Jesus' ambassadors he gives us authority to minister for him. Jesus calls and send the disciples by the same authority by which he himself ministers. The twelve are clearly seen as an extension of Jesus' own ministry. They are his authorized agents.

2. His Instructions (8-11)

- a. **Travelling light** - The Twelve were to take with them no food, no luggage, and no money. They were not even to take an extra tunic that people often used as a blanket at night. Sometimes we can trust in stuff and having everything organised in place. Where is God challenging us to step out in faith for him? As Wimber famously said faith is spelt RISK.
- b. **A New Exodus** - The language that Jesus uses to instruct the twelve is reminiscent of God's instructions to the children of Israel at the time of their Exodus from Egypt (Exodus 12:11). Jesus was a new and greater Moses, he has a new community and he is achieving a new deliverance.

- c. **Dust Free** - What about this funky command to 'shake the dust off your feet'? Pious Jews who had been travelling outside of Israel would remove from their feet and clothing all of the dust of the foreign lands they had travelled to, dissociating themselves with the lands and their ultimate judgment. Jesus now instructed the apostles to use this prophetic act as a challenge to people who rejected their message. We are called to be a prophetic people. It is also encouraging to us as Jesus knows that the Twelve will experience rejection and not everyone will repent. We are called to be like the farmer in the Parable of the Sower in Mark 4 and keep scattering the seed.

3. Their Response (6:12-13)

- a. **Show and Tell** - The response of the twelve was to go out and do what they had seen Jesus do. They preached that people should repent and they demonstrated the Kingdom of God driving out demons and healing many people.
- b. **Anointed Servants** - Anointing with oil was a common medical practice in the ancient world. But anointing with oil also symbolised God coming upon the anointed person enabling them to serve Him and setting them apart for God's use. God has anointed us with his Holy Spirit empowering us and setting us apart to serve him.
- c. **Kingdom Agents** - Our mission on earth is to be agents of the Kingdom of God in both word and deed. We are all invited into the same dynamic and the same supernatural ministry that Jesus had. John 14:12. We can all learn to recognize what God is doing and cooperate with him more effectively.

This quote summarises the talk and the series as a whole:

'Mark opens his gospel saying, "this is the beginning of the good news about Jesus Christ" (Mark 1:1). To Mark, his gospel story was not the end, but the beginning. The risen Jesus continues to reign as the King of the world, and the Gospel of Mark invites us into experiencing this and participating in spreading that good news. The invitation to set off on this journey to meet the risen King for yourself still stands.' Erin Vroom

Further Resources: Listening to the gospels: <https://soundcloud.com/soulsurvivoruk/sets/gospels-mark>

Timothy Keller King's Cross

https://www.amazon.co.uk/dp/1444702149/ref=cm_sw_em_r_mt_dp_U_7vRDbKBMSR62

Talks: Bridgetown Church series <https://bridgetown.church/series/gospel-of-mark/>

Group Discussion Questions

Welcome

If you don't eat together as a small group then you might want to start the group with some kind of ice breaker question. Remember to introduce yourselves when there are new people.

Worship

Worship is not just singing, it is thanking God for who he is and what he has done and is lived out through a life of trusting obedience. Discussing this together is an act of worship.

(Small group worship resources can be found at bvc.so/sgworship)

- What are you thankful for this week?
- Where has God been at work in your life?
- When have you taken risks in faith and obedience this week?

If you have a time of singing you can skip the above questions but please do ask this question each week:

- How is 'Read and Listen' going? What has God been speaking to you about this week? (*Go around the group quickly don't spend a long time on it*)

Word

We want our thoughts and lives to be shaped by what God says in the Bible. If most of your group weren't there on a Sunday base the discussion on the main passage rather than the talk.

- What from this week's talk/Bible passage stood out to you, and/or you found challenging? Why?
- Follow Jesus: What does this passage teach me about God?
- Live life to the full: What does this passage teach me about myself?
- Make a difference: What is God inviting you to do or change as a result of what we have discussed? (You can give everyone a minute or so in silence to write it down) Spend some time praying for one another.

Witness

We want to be investing in authentic relationships with those who don't know Jesus yet and inviting them to anything where they might meet other Christians and Jesus. Pick one of the below each week:

- How would you share what you have learned with a non-church friend?
- What church events coming up would your friends appreciate an invitation to?