

Matthew 10 (9:35-38) – The Beginning of the Missional Life

Apostles in Your Sphere of Influence (v.1-8)

The first time the twelve are named in Matthew and called apostles.

12 disciples, 12 tribes – sent out.

Jesus wants to give Israel a last chance.

They were meant to be missional but blew it.

Not to the gentiles, yet.

The lesson is to reach out where you are now.

Be missional now, not in a foreign land.

You are all apostles – sent out from here into your life with the Kingdom

The Worst PR Ever (v.9-15)

They are to change the world but

To go without stuff they need.

To go in faith. To go in weakness.

No spectacle.

This is the way of the cross.

It makes me think about how we are selling Jesus these days.

We sell him like candy.

Children's programs, singles programs, music, lights, big names

Big churches, big promises – we need to suck people in.

But Jesus isn't like this – it's not about furthering consumer religion.

Ministry isn't about doing something, its about God's power. (v.1)

When you have empty hands, you can only *give yourself & God's work*.

Not Easy (v.16-42)

This will be hard.

Opposition, torture, betrayal, death.

Christians have faced this through the centuries.

More are persecuted in this day and age than ever before.

And yet we live in relative comfort.

But we are still afraid to speak.

Afraid of being ridiculed or dismissed in a secular humanist society.

For being different or odd.

God cares about you – Trust that he will take care of you.

Self-preservation and self-protection hurts you, but worse, it condemns

others to ignorance of the Kingdom – there is a hell.

It will be hard because the kingdom reveals what is in people.

That is the missional life.

Why? (9:35-38)

Compassion, Love.

Start with Prayer and realize that you are the answer.

In what ways has spectacular evangelism affected how you share Christ?

In what ways are brokenness, love and compassion fundamental to living a missional life?