



Following Jesus means we are CALLED. SENT. GIFTED.

FIRST: v7 CALLING THE TWELVE TO HIM...

Following Jesus at its core is about being in relationship with Jesus.
Before it's about doing anything FOR him... its about being WITH Him.

Mark 1:10 Just as Jesus was coming up out of the water, he saw heaven being torn open and the Spirit descending on him like a dove. 11 And a voice came from heaven: "You are my Son, whom I love; with you I am well pleased."

The source of Jesus' life, authority and power... is his identity as a loved son full of God's delight.

Jesus came to RENEW the Father's love and the Spirit's power in our life.
To teach us how to live out of our identity vs trying to prove our identity.
Prayer grounds us in God's voice vs all the competing voices in the world.

NEXT: v7 HE BEGAN TO SEND THEM OUT TWO BY TWO...

Jesus calls us to himself by calling us to his purpose.
It's how we get to know him, learn to depend on him, we become like him.
One of our church mottos is that gathering here on the weekend is the locker room... it's the huddle on the field. But the game is out there... beyond the walls of this church.

First: That begins with one another... right here... reaching out to each other

- Getting to know those right around you.
- Grabbing lunch or inviting for dinner.
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Jesus starts by teaching the disciples to turn toward one another and together to go out and fish for people. Loving others begins with one another. Covenant Community. Our commitment to one another.

Second: We go out looking for where God is already at work.

FINALLY: v7 AND GAVE THEM AUTHORITY...

There are 6 mentions of authority (exousia) up to now in Mark

4 are about Jesus' authority... teaching, demons, healing forgiveness.
2 are about Jesus giving us that same authority.

We don't go out depending on our resources... probably why the disciples are sent out without food, money and extra stuff... trust God he'll show up.

Where God guides he provides.

Jesus' spiritual authority was rooted in his identity as his Father's loved son... and drew power from the Holy Spirit. Being a Christian is not about taking showers... its about maturing in the power of the Spirit.

When our identity is rooted in God's love we are protected from using this power for ourselves or for the enemy.

Jesus' authority allows us to REVEAL Jesus and his goodness:

1. Through our words... sharing about Jesus... the gospel... our stories.
2. Through our prayers... ask someone "If God can do a miracle in your life today... what would it be? ... "Can I pray for you?"
3. Through our actions... serving, hosting, caring in practical ways.