

EQUIPPED FOR MINISTRY!

Matthew 10:1-15

Following His example with His disciples, how does our Lord Jesus Christ equip every believer for the work of ministry?

- I. He gives **power** to get the job done (v. 1)!

- II. He prepares **people** to do the work of ministry, not programs (v. 2-4).

- III. He prepares a **plan** for His disciples to follow which will bear fruit (v. 5-15).
 1. Our Lord puts us where we can be most effective (v. 5-6).
 2. Our Lord prescribes a specific approach to successful ministry (v. 7-15).
 - a. Share the gospel message (v. 7).
 - b. Minister to the physical needs of those you are sent to (v. 8).
 - c. Adopt a simple lifestyle in order to be "lean and meaningful" (v. 9-10).
 - d. Make a "house of peace" your base of operation (v. 11-13).
 - e. Don't let "time wasters" drag you down (v. 14-15).

Bottomline: *The Lord gives gifted leadership to the church to equip the saints (that's you) for the work of ministry! (Ephesians 4:11-12; 2Ti 2:2)*

DAILY DEVOTIONS IN MATTHEW

For the week of February 7-13, 2010

SUNDAY: Begin by reading Matthew 9:35-38. What did Jesus do before sending out his men? How does what the disciples will be doing compare with what Jesus had been doing in chapters 8-9? With what He has seen (9:36)? With what He has prayed (9:38)?* Thinking back to last week, how is God answer the prayer Jesus asks us to pray today in India? (If you didn't hear David Carroll for Gospel for Asia, go online at www.bfchemet.org and listen to his sermon before answering the last question.)

MONDAY: Compare Mt 10:1 with Mt 28:18-20. What do you see? What are the differences? What are the similarities? How might you be obeying our Lord's Great Commission to you in Mt 28 right now? How does the paradigm "**Pray>Send>Go**" help you obey the Great Commission? What steps can you personally take in the near future to obey our Lord's command? Remember that baby steps are great with our Lord and long as you are moving forward. For instance, get online with our website above and check out the "Missions" page and start corresponding with one of our missionaries and ask them how you might start praying for them or join our Missions Prayer Group at 6 am Tuesdays in Room 101 off the north parking lot. ☺

TUESDAY: Ruminant on Mt 10:2-4. The 'zealots' were guerrilla fighters committed to freedom of the Jews from Rome. Why would Jesus choose one of them to be on the same team with Matthew, a tax collector who had worked with Rome? What discussions do you imagine they may have had? What does this say about the variety that our Lord brings together in His church to reach the world for His glory? Look around BFC and give thanks for the variety of believers that Jesus is the 'Chief Shepherd' over here at this church (your church)!

WEDNESDAY: Meditate on Mt 10:5-16. What were the things that Gil said about these verses Sunday? How did our Lord expect the disciples to get the job done? Did they do the job well? Read Acts 2 and see what He gave them to obey His Great Commission in Mt 28:18-20 & Ac 1:8. Geographically have they accomplished much for His Name and His Glory? How about you? What did Pastor Gil say about following the same directions of the Lord to His disciples in today's ministry? In your ministry?

THURSDAY: Please ponder Mt 9:37-38, Eph 4:11-12 & 2Ti 2:2. What do these verses say about your involvement in Jesus' mission here on earth today? The very best way to enjoy the "abundant Christian life" (Jn 10:10) is to **get going for Jesus**. Consider what Pastor Gil said in Monday's devotional or come into the church office and ask for a Passages book and get started with today's date.

FRIDAY: Memorize one of the three verses under "Thursday's devotional."

SATURDAY: Please read Mt 10:16-42 and prepare your heart to worship the Lord tomorrow!

*Taken from The Serendipity Bible for Groups.

The Gospel for Sharing with Others

1. We are all sinners who cannot solve our sin problem by ourselves.

“for all have sinned and fall short of the glory of God,” –Romans 3:23

2. Unconfessed sin will separate us from God for all eternity.

“For the wages of sin is death, but the gift of God is eternal life in Christ Jesus our Lord.” –Romans 6:23

3. God loved us enough to send His Son to earth to die for our sins.

“But God demonstrates his own love for us in this: While we were still sinners, Christ died for us.” –Romans 5:8

4. We must personally confess Jesus Christ as our Lord and Savior in order to receive God’s forgiveness of our sins and experience eternal life.

“That if you confess with your mouth, “Jesus is Lord,” and believe in your heart that God raised him from the dead, you will be saved. For it is with your heart that you believe and are justified, and it is with your mouth that you confess and are saved.” -Romans 10:9-10