



-- Read Luke 10:5-12

-- Pray

-- **Three aspects of the mission message:**

1. The Reconciliation: Jesus Christ came to reconcile unrighteous sinners to our Holy God. (This point is all we will get to today.)
2. The Responses: Everyone must respond, because the kingdom of God is near.
3. The Results: Welcoming this message brings peace with God. Rejecting it brings punishment.

-- **v. 5 – “When you enter a house, first say, ‘Peace to this house.’”**

-- **“When...”**

-- Literally, this verse begins, “Whatever house you enter.”

-- The NIV does well to translate it as it does, because engaging others with the Gospel is a “when,” not an “if.”

-- In other words, telling the Good News of Jesus Christ is something God *expects* all of us to be doing.

-- **“...you...”**

-- This command is proclaimed directly to each individual disciple.

-- Notice, it does not say, “Whenever *someone* enters a house...”

-- Thus, as Christ’s followers, the mission proclaimed in this text is an evangelistic call on each of our lives.

-- **“...enter a house...”**

-- Video – Cat in Sock

-- Effective evangelism won’t happen in the comfortable confines of our comfort zones.

- Our mission to be sent forth requires us to go forth and engage people where they are.
- “...*first*...”
  - The Gospel of Jesus Christ ought to be the topic of primary interest in every relationship of our lives.
  - In the end, what will all our chit chat and conversations have yielded if the other person never welcomes the message of Christ?
- “...*say*...”
  - St. Francis of Assisi once said, “Preach the Gospel at all times and when necessary use words.”
  - This is a very popular saying among Christians (make note of Google search result).
    - It does have some merit, because our actions and lifestyles absolutely affect the impact of our message.
    - However, I think the popularity of this saying is mostly due to the fact that people want to be faithful ambassadors of Christ, but they are afraid to speak the Gospel.
  - It is impossible to read these verses and avoid the fact that a principal part of our mission in Christ is to speak the truth of Christ with our lips.
- “...*Peace*...”
  - The world has co-opted and corrupted the word “peace.”
    - This is not Woodstock or the Miss America Pageant.
  - The peace that Jesus commands us to proclaim to the world in this text is not a peace between people or nations on earth.
    - Matthew 10:34-36 – *“Do not suppose that I have come to bring peace to the earth. I did not come to bring peace, but a sword. For I have come to turn ‘a man against his father, a daughter against her mother, a daughter-in-law against her mother-in-law—a man's enemies will be the members of his own household.’”*
    - Please do not misunderstand; God certainly wants us, as His people, to do our best to live at peace with others.
      - Romans 12:18 – *“If it is possible, as far as it depends on you, live at peace with everyone.”*
    - Moreover, God has recreated us, as His people, to live complete peace with one another.
  - John 17:20-23 – *“My prayer is not for them alone. I pray also for those who will believe in me through their message, that all of them may be one... May they be brought to complete unity to let the world know that you sent me and have loved them even as you have loved me.”*

- However, Jesus speaks of an infinitely more significant peace than the so-called “world peace” “imagined” in a hundred hippie choruses.
  - “Imagine” Lyrics:
    - “Imagine there's no Heaven... It's easy if you try... No hell below us... Above us only sky... Imagine all the people... Living for today... ... .. Imagine there's no countries... It isn't hard to do... Nothing to kill or die for... And no religion too... Imagine all the people... Living life in peace...”
  - The world’s pursuit of peace never works because it is seeking the wrong kind of peace.
  - We could preach world peace until we are blue in the face. But if we don’t preach peace with God first, any apparent peace we establish on earth is ultimately meaningless.
- The message of Christ is peace with God.
  - Apart from Christ, we are enemies of God because of our sin.
    - Ephesians 2:1-3 – “*As for you, you were dead in your transgressions and sins, in which you used to live when you followed the ways of this world and of the ruler of the kingdom of the air, the spirit who is now at work in those who are disobedient. All of us also lived among them at one time, gratifying the cravings of our sinful nature and following its desires and thoughts. Like the rest, we were by nature objects of wrath.*”
  - Jesus came to make peace between God and us.
    - Romans 4:25 - 5:2 – “[*Jesus Christ*] was delivered over to death for our sins and was raised to life for our justification. Therefore, since we have been justified through faith, we have peace with God through our Lord Jesus Christ, through whom we have gained access by faith into this grace in which we now stand. And we rejoice in the hope of the glory of God.”
  - Peace with God is defined in Colossians 1:21-22.
    - Colossians 1:21-22 – “*Once you were alienated from God and were enemies in your minds because of your evil behavior. But now he has reconciled you by Christ's physical body through death to present you holy in his sight, without blemish and free from accusation.*”
- The message for our mission is reconciliation to God through Jesus Christ our Lord.
  - 2 Corinthians 5:17-21 – “*Therefore, if anyone is in Christ, he is a new creation; the old has gone, the new has come!* <sup>18</sup> *All this is from God, who*

*reconciled us to himself through Christ and gave us the ministry of reconciliation: <sup>19</sup> that God was reconciling the world to himself in Christ, not counting men's sins against them. And he has committed to us the message of reconciliation. <sup>20</sup> We are therefore Christ's ambassadors, as though God were making his appeal through us. We implore you on Christ's behalf: Be reconciled to God. <sup>21</sup> God made him who had no sin to be sin for us, so that in him we might become the righteousness of God."*

-- v. 5

-- Reconciliation to God: This is the message Christ commands each individual disciple to take with us wherever we go.

-- Reconciliation to God: This is the reason Christ calls us to break free of our comfort zones and engage people wherever they are.

-- Reconciliation to God: This is, by far, the most important message of not our lives but the lives of every soul on earth.

-- Reconciliation to God: This is the message that our Lord commands us to speak and make clear to a world separated from God by sin.

-- Reconciliation to God: This is the message that we embrace, contemplate, and proclaim every time we take of the Lord's Supper.

-- The Lord's Supper

-- (Read 1 Corinthians 11:23-28.)

-- (Emphasize v. 26.)

-- (Emphasize v. 28.)

-- Three or Four Minute Countdown

-- This Communion is for anyone among us today who is a believer in the Lord Jesus Christ.

-- If you have truly trusted in Jesus Christ as Lord, then we invite you to join together with us.

-- If you do not know Jesus Christ as Lord, then, for your own sake, we ask you allow the elements to pass by.

-- (Prayer for the bread, pass bread, invite)

-- (Prayer for the cup, pass cup, invite)