



# Daily Reflections

**July 15, 2018**

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## Scripture

### **Mark 6: 7-13**

Jesus summoned the Twelve and began to send them out two by two and gave them authority over unclean spirits.

He instructed them to take nothing for the journey but a walking stick—

no food, no sack, no money in their belts.

They were, however, to wear sandals but not a second tunic.

He said to them,

“Wherever you enter a house, stay there until you leave.

Whatever place does not welcome you or listen to you, leave there and shake the dust off your feet in testimony against them.”

So they went off and preached repentance.

The Twelve drove out many demons, and they anointed with oil many who were sick and cured them.

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## Our Scripture Reflection

In today’s Gospel text, Jesus sends His twelve Apostles out on an incredible mission. They are expected to do amazing things. Their work, however, will not be the result of any great strength or talent that they possess. What they do will be because of the authority of Jesus Himself. The way they dress and

their manner of behavior indicates that they are to be totally dependent on God's providential care for them. Because of their faith and trust in Jesus, they accomplished great things. Our faith in Christ today is in large part due to their work.

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## **Food for your Journey**

St. John Chrysostom, a leader of the church in Constantinople in the 4th century, preached from Ephesians a series of sermons that included these words: "Is it not utterly absurd to send our children into trades, or to school, and to do anything and everything for the sake of this, and not to bring the children up in the training and instruction of the Lord? ... Let us give them a pattern ... Give your children the great things, not the little things." Let's give them the "great things" of life ...

"To clasp the hands in prayer is the beginning of an uprising against the disorder of this world." Prayer is the source, the font, the heart, the root, the alpha point of our preparedness for social endeavor; but the Christian life of prayer does not stay on its knees; there is an uprising one gets and steps forward to meet the challenges, which can never be known in advance. The Christians' way forward into the future is more one of preparedness than one of planning.

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## **A Prayer from the Heart**

Dear Jesus, You love and trust me enough to allow me to be Your witness. With the help of Your Grace, may I through my words and actions reveal Your Presence in this world. Amen