February 7, 2019

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 from there. 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.

Our Scripture Reflection

Jesus sends out the twelve apostles to be His witnesses but not without first preparing them for what lies ahead:

1. They are to take only bare minimums. Why? God would use their recipients to care for their basic needs.
2. Rejection is to be expected. After all, the word “witness” is derived from the Greek word “martyroi”, the same word for martyr.

They are to remain faithful to the mission come what may and realize they are dependent on God whose work they are doing.

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**Food for your Journey**

New York Giants' place-kicker Matt Bahr, who kicked his team into the 1991 Super Bowl, is not the strongest kicker in the league physically, but he is the strongest mentally. "A kicker is only as good as his next kick," Bahr states repeatedly. Notice not his last kick, but his next kick. Preparedness for the future is deserving of our full focus.

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**A Prayer from the Heart**

Dear God, I am humbled by the fact that You love me and trust me so much that You call me to be Your witness in this world. Cleanse my heart and my lips and make me Holy so that I may always be worthy of Your calling. Amen