

***Nurturing Faith...
Every Day in Every Way***

July 5, 2015

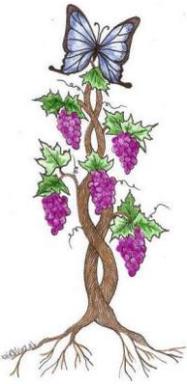
Sixth Sunday after Pentecost

Ezekiel 2:1-5

Psalms 123

2 Corinthians 12:2-10

Mark 6:1-13



Jesus Sends Out the Twelve. Object: A suitcase

It's the time of year when many people are going on vacation. If you have ever gone on a trip, you know that it takes a lot of preparation to get ready to go. You may need to get someone to bring in your newspaper and your mail while you are gone. If you have a dog or a cat, someone has to take care of your pet. Probably the most important thing you have to do when you go on a trip is pack your suitcase. I brought a suitcase today. Let's imagine that we are going on a trip and make a list all of the things we will need to pack in our suitcase. Let's see, we will need socks, underwear, jeans, shirts, shorts, toothpaste, toothbrush, shampoo, comb and brush, and a swim suit and flip-flops for the beach. Have I forgotten anything? (Allow time for the children to add to the list.) Oh, I thought of something I forgot. My laptop! I can't go a week without checking my email or surfing the Internet!

When he was on the earth, Jesus traveled around from village to village teaching, healing people, and casting out demons. One day, he called his twelve disciples to him and said, "I want you to go out two by two. I am giving you all of the authority you need to cast out evil spirits."

That sounds like a pretty big task, doesn't it? That meant that they would have to travel from town to town just as Jesus had been doing. I imagine the disciples thought to themselves, "Wow! I had better go home and start packing!"

But then Jesus gave them further instructions. "Take nothing for your journey except a walking stick -- no food, no traveler's bag, and no money. You can wear sandals, but no extra clothing."

No food, no money, no extra clothes -- how could the disciples possibly make this journey? They found people who would welcome them and they stayed with them in their homes. These people fed them and gave them everything they needed for the journey. The Bible tells us that the disciples went out telling everyone they met to repent of their sins and turn to God. They also cast out many evil spirits and they healed many sick people. In other words, they did exactly what Jesus told them to do and he gave them the power to do it.

Jesus told you and me to go and make disciples. I wonder if sometimes we delay following his command because we think we aren't ready. If we would just go, like the

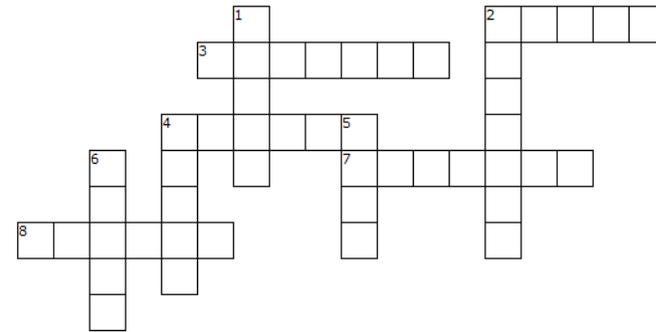
Gospel Acclamation: Alleluia. I will boast gladly of my weaknesses, so that the power of Christ may dwell in me. Alleluia (2 Cor. 12:9)

Twelve did, he would give us the ability to share the Good News with others. What do you think? Let's go!

Father, we know that many people need to hear the Good News. Jesus has told us to go and make disciples. Help us to be willing to go. In Jesus' name we pray. Amen.

-Used by permission, sermons4kids

Crossword Puzzle



ACROSS

- 2. A stick or cane carried as an aid in walking or climbing
- 3. A trip over a great distance
- 4. The number of disciples Jesus chose
- 7. A community where people live that is smaller than a town or city
- 8. To deliver a sermon; to proclaim the Word of God

DOWN

- 1. Coins or bills used to buy things
- 2. Shoes consisting of a bottom part held onto the foot by straps
- 4. To instruct, train, or give knowledge to others
- 5. Something that is bad or wrong; wicked
- 6. A basic food made from flour, water, and yeast mixed together and baked

MONEY	PREACH	BREAD	EVIL	TEACH
JOURNEY	TWELVE	VILLAGE	SANDALS	STAFF

BIBLE VERSE RELAY: Let the children line up and take turns RUNNING to the teacher's suitcase and take one word from today's Bible verse which is written on a slip of paper. After all the children have had a turn to get a slip of paper, let children arrange the words in order to form the Bible verse. The children will then tape the words on a large picture drawing of a suitcase on a piece of poster board and hang on the classroom wall.

2 X 2 HUNT: Let the children go out in groups of two to find enough letters around a designated room to spell G-O-O-D N-E-W-S. When they have found the letters, they will bring them back and tape to a piece of construction paper. When they have completed the 2 x 2 hunt tell the children that JESUS IS THE GOOD NEWS!

SHARE THE GOOD NEWS!

