

## Delegating Power - Matthew 10:1-25

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### Introduction.

Jesus delegated power to drive out demons, to heal, and to preach. The disciples were not to go the Gentiles but to the lost sheep of Israel. They were not to take money but to rely on the Holy Spirit. They were to seek out a worthy person to dwell with. If they were rejected they were to move on to the next village. Those that reject the disciples will be guilty in the judgment. They were to rely on the Holy Spirit for wisdom in each crisis. When men hate the disciples on account of Jesus they were to know that they hated Jesus first.

This is a foundation passage to understand Christian ministry because it's so early. How much of the disciples' ministry is normative and how much is unique? Jesus called his disciples to give them authority to drive out demons and to heal disease. The word for authority here is similar to that given to a police man. The power is not their own but belongs to the one they represent.

### I. Three things about this power.

#### A. It works through people.

##### 1. Jesus wanted to see his power met the needs of people around him.

- a. He had compassion on the multitudes.
- b. He was aware of the great needs around him.
- c. He understood the sickness and lostness of the people.
- d. The twelve were sent out to meet this need.
- e. The twelve were uneducated, common men.
- f. The one sending the twelve was powerful. (Isaiah 40:25)

1. God calls the stars by name.

2. God is the creator of the world and greater than the world.

3. We need this power of God in our lives.

4. God gives his power to ordinary, weak people.

5. When God wants to work powerfully in people's lives he will not use an angel but ordinary people like you and me,

6. My daughter asked me to pray for her non-Christian friends who have agreed to study the Gospel of John with her. She became discouraged but read about Moses at the burning bush and could relate to Moses' fear

about going to Pharaoh. She decided to go again to her friends and one asked Jesus into her heart.

7. Jesus uses ordinary people like us.

8. Church stained glass windows show saints to be rather super men, but it isn't true.

9. Let us go into the world knowing that God's people shows up in weak people. We are channels through which God can pour out his power.

2. Do you believe that the power of God is available in you to meet the needs of those around you?

B. It was given for a purpose.

1. The power of God is given for a purpose; to drive out demons, heal sickness, and preach the Gospel.

2. Jesus' disciples are to represent Him.

3. Disciples are to do what Jesus does.

4. Nothing requires more power than to live like Jesus.

5. We are given power and authority in order to live like Jesus.

6. The power of God is given to me to represent Jesus to a lost world.

a. We are not to do this in a prideful way.

b. We are to humbly minister to those who need to hear the good news of the Gospel.

c. Ask God how you can represent Jesus and then go with that intention.

d. Power and authority is not given for self but for others.

7. The power in this context was given to preach the Gospel.

a. Our first ministry is to preach the Gospel that frees people from sin.

b. The problems of people are foremost in their own minds and spirits.

c. The kingdom of heaven has arrived in the death and resurrection of Jesus.

d. This is the cutting edge of ministry.

8. The power was also given for the purpose of helping people with practical needs.

C. This power is revealed through weakness.