



Sermon Notes: “Worthy or Dusty”

Matthew 10:5-15

2.8.26

HIS SHEEP:

- Being sent to the Jews first was not about exclusion but rather giving Abraham's descendants every chance to respond.
- God doesn't look for ability. He looks for availability.
 - Path 1: The "Unqualified"
 - Path 2: The "Qualified"

EMPOWERED:

- Miracles don't make the gospel true; they validate its truth.

Pastoral Note:

We have no evidence that miraculous authority is universally common, however, there is nothing to say it has been permanently withdrawn.

- Whatever Jesus asks you to do, He gives you the power to do it.
 - We need dependence on God.
 - We need to incorporate others into the mission.

So What?

What kind of “house” are we?

A “Worthy” Question: *How is our openness to the gospel of Christ revealing our surrender and mission?*

A “Dusty” Question: *In what way am I resisting the gospel's transformation — and how is that hindering my ability to be sent?*

For Study, Reflection, Discussion During the Week:

Life Group ICEBREAKER: Have you ever had someone unexpectedly open their home to you when you really needed it — or been the one to open yours? What made that moment meaningful?

REVIEW:

Review the sermon notes from Sunday. Was there a particular point that stuck with you? What was it and why did it resonate with you?

READ: Matthew 10:5-8

- Jesus told the disciples to go ONLY to "the lost sheep of Israel" — God's own people who already had the Torah, the temple, and the prophets. Why do you think Jesus started there instead of the Gentiles?
 - Darin connected this to Ezekiel 34, where God rebuked the shepherds who "fed themselves instead of the flock." Do you see a correlation with people today who have been failed by religion — burned by the church or given a distorted version of God?
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READ: Matthew 10:9-10

- Jesus told them to take no money, no bag, no extra clothes. Why would He strip away their safety nets?
 - Darin outlined two layers of this: **dependence on God, incorporating others into the mission, and traveling light**. Which of these is hardest for you personally?
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READ: Matthew 10:11-15

- A "worthy" house wasn't about being good enough — it was about being **open enough** to receive the gospel and partner in the mission. What does it look like to be an "open" household today?
 - The "dusty" towns weren't godless — they were religious. They had the synagogue, the traditions, the rituals — but when the gospel knocked, they refused to answer. How can someone be religious but not receptive?
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DEPLOY: Two Questions to Sit With:

1. **A "Worthy" Question:** How is my openness to the gospel of Christ revealing my **surrender** and mission? (example: in my money, my comfort, my ego, my relationships, etc.)
 2. **A "Dusty" Question:** In what way am I resisting the gospel's **transformation** — and how is that hindering my ability to be sent?
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Don't Forget:

- **Go LOVE Team Training** — 2 Kingdoms legalistic Training. All-church Sunday School coming soon!
 - **Mexico Mission Trip Fundraiser Dinner:** Feb 14th. Consider supporting financially and pray for the team!
 - **Today** — Super Bowl party starting at 2:30. The game will start at 3:30! Come and join us for fellowship, bring your favorite snacks to share!
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Prayer:

Father,

Thank You that You don't wait for us to be qualified — You qualify the ones who are willing. Thank You that the mission doesn't depend on our perfection — it depends on Your faithfulness.

Forgive us for the times we've heard the knock and kept the door closed. Forgive us for the rooms we've kept locked — the areas of security, comfort, ego, and independence we haven't fully surrendered.

Forgive us for being religious without being receptive.

Make us worthy houses — not because we're perfect, but because we're open. Let the gospel You placed in us come back out of us in mission.

The messengers have come. The harvest is ready. Here we are, Lord — make us willing.

In Jesus' name, Amen.