

# Daily Reflections

#### **SENT OUT TWO BY TWO**

By Sr. Jeanne Fallon, CSJ

## **Today's Gospel**

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.

**MARK 6:7-13** 

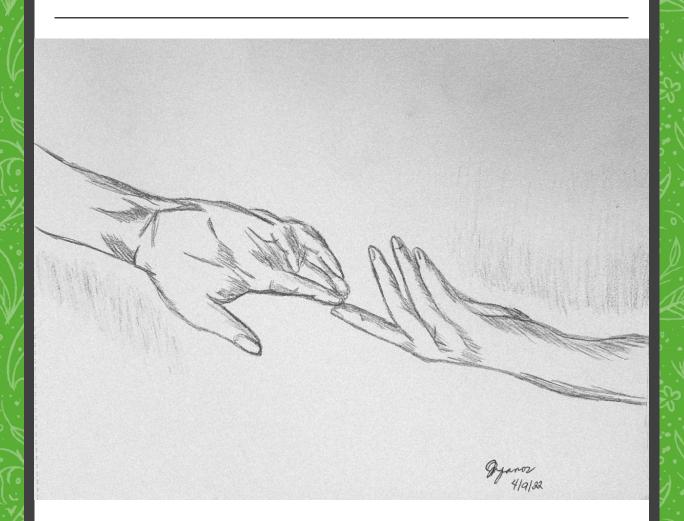
### Reflection

After being together for some time, imagine the disciples hearing Jesus say, "It

is time for you to go out now to do my work in the world. You will go by twos; you will take nothing with you to care for yourselves, like food or money — only one tunic and a pair of sandals...." There were no details, like when you will come back or when you will see each other again.

Imagine the impact Jesus must have had on these ordinary folks; they left their possessions, families, their position of honor in their village and set out with one other disciple, to carry on the work they had seen Jesus doing: teaching and preaching repentance, anointing with oil the sick and infirm, curing all diseases. How they must have trusted Jesus to set out at a moment's notice to carry out his work. They had seen how Jesus had engaged in the illness and sorrows of the people — now they were hearing Jesus entrusting them to go and do the same. Did they even know if they had power to touch and heal the sick whom they would meet?

Being with Jesus must have ignited a fire in the disciples! Their own physical concerns and comforts were no longer important. They were being given a sacred task, to go preach God's kingdom. Jesus was sharing his Galilean ministry with his disciples, and they were fired up, ready to go. They might face rejection as Jesus did in Nazareth: just go elsewhere and shake the dust from your feet — a symbolic gesture that is non-violent and would allow the disciples to continue on the road.



## **For Pondering**

I am reminded of a young Sister who was aware of God drawing her into religious life, but she was not yet saying "Yes." One day she heard this passage from Mark 6 being proclaimed -- "the disciples were sent out two by two" - and she was given the grace to say, "Yes, you do not send us out alone!"

What happens in you when you hear this passage today? Jesus Christ continues to invite, to prepare, and to send disciples out to continue his mission. What might he be saying to you in this present moment?

## **For Prayer**

Dear God, open my eyes to see
the countless amazing miracles You perform
before me constantly.
Open my mind to understand that
what appears to be the natural order of things
is in truth miraculous in every way.
Your guiding hand directs
and empowers me in everything I do.

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