Discipleship Pathway

Mark 6:6b-30

1. Train & Deploy Vs. 6b-13

Before Jesus sent the Twelve out, He modeled and trained them with what was needed for them to succeed in the challenge and then sent them out to apply what they have learned. Jesus gave detailed instructions which included the vision, and the insight of healthy boundaries that would allow them to depend on God and complete the mission.

Jesus calls His disciples to make mature multiplying disciples (Matthew 28:19-20). When we disciple others, we follow Jesus' approach of training and then deploying; only giving the disciples what was needed in order to attempt to do the challenge that was given based upon the gifts and talents that God had blessed them with.

2. Hardships Encounters Vs. 14-29

Mark intentionally placed the story of how John the Baptist died in the middle of the story of the Twelve being sent by Jesus to proclaim the good news to remind disciples of Jesus that those who live for God may encounter dangerously threatening circumstances. This should be no surprise, as Jesus, our Lord and Saviour also encountered dangerous and threatening circumstances.

3. Debrief & Praise vs. 30

When the Twelve returned from the mission Jesus gave, Jesus debriefed with them. Although the Twelve experienced a successful mission through God's empowerment, the disciples forgot when sharing with Jesus to bring God glory. They forgot to give God the credit in how He worked through them.

When we disciple others, we need to remember the reality that people need assistance in debriefing their lives, as they need the support in examining their experiences so they can learn from the successes and the challenges.

A key lesson for us all is to give God the glory, as only when God works through us do we see such wonderful fruit in our lives.

Summary

Just as Jesus invited the disciples to observe what he did, understand the hardship they could face, deployed them to go and do it themselves, and then debriefed them after they experienced it, we are invited to model Christ's teachings; send people out to apply it and then discuss how it went.

Questions:

- The Twelve took some bold steps to preach and heal as Jesus had. What inhibits you to be bold like them in obeying Jesus in making disciples (Matthew 28:19-20)?
- Which of the Growth Essentials do you need to receive training? Biblical Obedience, Empowered Prayer, Participatory Worship, Intentional Evangelism, Sacrificial Service, Committed Fellowship.
- Are you currently being discipled? If not, when will you take the step and request discipleship?
- Jesus calls us "to go make disciples... teaching them to obey everything I have commanded you".
 Where have you grown in your faith where you can teach someone the lessons that you have learned?
- We have the blessing of God working through our lives, and so we should give him glory. What
 does that look like? How do we give God glory when we talk about our life?