Jesus Sent Out the Twelve Apostles

5 Jesus sent out these twelve men with these orders: “Don’t go off into any non-Jewish area. Don’t go into any Samaritan town. 6 Instead, go to the lost sheep — the people of Israel. 7 As you are going, announce this: ‘The kingdom of heaven is very near!’ 8 Heal sick people. Raise people from death. Make lepers well. Throw out demons. You received freely; give freely. 9 Don’t take along any gold, silver, or copper in your money-belts. 10 Don’t take a bag for the trip, an extra suit of clothes, shoes, or a walking cane. A worker should be given his pay. 11-13 When you enter a town or a village, find someone there who is worthy. When you go into his house, give your greeting to it. If the household is worthy, let your greeting of peace be upon it. Stay there until it is time to leave. However, if the household is not worthy, let your greeting of peace come back to you. 14 Whenever someone does not welcome you or listen to your words, go outside that town or house and shake the dust off your feet. 15 I am telling you the truth: On the Judgment Day, God WILL punish the people of that town more than He will punish the people of Sodom and Gomorrah!

16 “Listen! I am sending you like sheep into a pack of wolves. Be wise like snakes, yet as gentle as doves."