INTRODUCTION

THE MAN WITH THE WITHERED RIGHT HAND:
6:9 Then said Jesus unto them, I will ask you one thing; Is it lawful on the sabbath days to do good, or to do evil? to save life, or to destroy it? — Jesus’ question had two parts. He first asked if it was lawful to do good on the Sabbath or if it was lawful to do evil. Then He asked if it was lawful to save a life or to destroy it? The obvious answer would be to do good and save a life. This would never abuse the Sabbath. In fact, there is no better day to help and minister than on the Lord’s Day! If we do not help people, no matter the day, even on the Sabbath, then we are withholding good and doing evil to our neighbor. The old saying says “Don’t put off tomorrow what you can do today.”

6:10 And looking round about upon them all, he said unto the man, Stretch forth thy hand. And he did so: and his hand was restored whole as the other. Jesus had asked the question, and looks around at them waiting for their response, however, there was only stone silence. He told the man with the withered hand to stretch forth his hand. Jesus’ point was clear, and that was to do good and save a life! The man might not ever stand before the Lord again; might not ever have this chance again, so he did as he was told, and his hand was restored whole as the other!

6:11 And they were filled with madness; and communed one with another what they might do to Jesus. Oh it’s on now, they were insanely mad, now they’re plotting how to kill Jesus.

LESSON: I. PREPARATION FOR MINISTRY LUKE 6:12-16
6:12 And it came to pass in those days, that he went out into a mountain to pray, and continued all night in prayer to God. After Jesus had healed the man with the withered hand, He incited madness within the Scribes and Pharisees in the synagogue. Jesus is planning for ministry by first going into the mountain to pray; praying all night to God to the daylight hours. Talking to God is the key!

6:13 And when it was day, he called unto him his disciples: and of them he chose twelve, whom also he named apostles;— The day came and He chose and called forth His disciples, choosing twelve of them whom were also to be called apostles. A “disciple” is a learner taught by their teacher and who follows their teacher, while an “Apostle” is the disciple who are the “sent one”; to be “send out.” Jesus was about to prepare twelve men to be His disciples for the world.

6:14 Simon, (whom he also named Peter,) and Andrew his brother, James and John, Philip and Bartholomew,— There were at least three businessmen: Peter, James, and John. All three were fishermen with rather large businesses. They were a rough breed with thundering personalities. Jesus chose diverse
personalities. Just to name a few:

1. **Simon** (whom Jesus also named **Peter**) was rough and loud and impulsive, and among the first to be called by Jesus from his fishing boat to be a fisher of men.

2. **Andrew** is the older brother of Simon Peter. He was among the first to be called by Jesus to be a fisher of men. He was always bringing people to Christ. He was the one who brought the boy with the loaves and fishes to Jesus (Jh.6:8-13).

3. **James** was the son of Zebedee and one of the three apostles who comprised the inner circle of Jesus' disciples (Peter, James and John). James along with his brother John are known as the "Sons of Thunder."

4. It was **Philip** who first introduced Nathanael (sometimes identified with Bartholomew) to Jesus. Philip baptized the Ethiopian. He had four unmarried daughters who had the Gift of Prophecy.

5. **John** was also the son of Zebedee and the brother of James. He is also known as the Beloved Disciple. John wrote the Book of John and the 1st, 2nd and 3rd Epistles of John and the Book of Revelation.

6. **Bartholomew**, also known as Nathaniel, who said "Can there any good thing come out of Nazareth?" Jesus said to him "Behold an Israelite indeed, in whom is no guile" (treachery). "...Before that Philip called thee, when thou wast under the fig tree, I saw thee. Nathanael answered and saith unto him, Rabbi, thou art the Son of God; thou art the King of Israel. "Jh.1:46-49

6:15 Matthew and Thomas, James the son of Alphaeus, and Simon called Zelotes,—

7. **Matthew**, the tax collector. His house must have been an estate for it was large enough to handle a huge crowd for a large feast. He was wealthy, ostracized by the Jewish community, bound to be hard-crusted, non-religious.

8. **Thomas**, also called Didymus ("twin") and was labeled with the nickname "Doubting Thomas."

9. **James the son of Alphaeus** also called "James the Less."

10. **Simon called Zelotes** also known as Simon the Canaanite. When Jesus called him, he was a member of a political nationalist group, an insurrectionist. The Zealots were pledged to overthrow the Roman government, and to assassinate as many Roman officials and Jewish cohorts as possible. However, he humbled himself to Jesus and preached the gospel in Persia.

6:16 And Judas the brother of James, and Judas Iscariot, which also was the traitor.

11. **Judas** [the brother] of James is labeled with two other names: “Lebbaeus, whose surname was Thaddaeus.”

12. **Judas Iscariot**, the traitor who betrayed Jesus prior to His crucifixion.

II. BEGINNING THE MINISTRY      LUKE 6:17-19

6:17 And he came down with them, and stood in the plain, and the company of his disciples, and a great multitude of people out of all Judaea and Jerusalem, and from the sea coast of Tyre and Sidon, which came to hear him, and to be healed of their diseases;— Jesus came down from the mountain and stood on the level plain, many followers and a great multitude from Judea and Jerusalem, and from the sea coast of Tyre and Sidon had come to hear Jesus preach, and be healed of their diseases. Jesus had chosen His disciples and they would in turn learn to minister with Him.
1. First, before receiving you must hear (even in ministry); they all came to hear Him.

2. Second, they came to be healed of their diseases.

The mission of the disciples was to learn from the Master. After hearing what you’ve learned, you must put into practice, and that is, to learn to carry out a threefold ministry.

1. The ministry of preaching to those who came to hear Jesus.

6:18 And they that were vexed with unclean spirits: and they were healed. Jesus’ healing ministry was extensive, both in the number of people healed, the places from which they came, and the maladies of which they were relieved. The word “Vexed” means “to harass.” “Unclean spirits” was another name for “demons.” These demons caused particular types of sicknesses among the people.

2. The ministry of healing unclean spirits.

6:19 And the whole multitude sought to touch him: for there went virtue out of him, and healed them all. Multitudes were healed as they touched the power that came from Jesus!

3. The ministry of leading people to touch Jesus in order to receive His virtue.

SUMMARY:

After Jesus had healed the man with the withered hand, He incited madness within the Scribes and Pharisees in the synagogue. He then went into the mountain to pray; praying all night to God. And when day came He called His disciples, and of them He chose twelve, whom also He named apostles. The twelve called were Simon, named Peter, Andrew his brother, James and John, Philip and Bartholomew, Matthew and Thomas, James the son of Alphaeus, and Simon called Zelotes, Judas the brother of James, and Judas Iscariot, which also was the traitor (6:12-16).

Jesus and the twelve came down from the mountain and stood on the level plain, where many followers and a great multitude from Judea and Jerusalem, and from the sea coast of Tyre and Sidon had come to hear Jesus preach, and be healed of their diseases. Those vexed with unclean spirits were also healed. Multitudes were healed as they touched the power that came from Jesus! (6:17-19).