

Later Jesus appeared to the Eleven as they were eating; he rebuked them for their lack of faith and their stubborn refusal to believe those who had seen him after he had risen. He said to them, "Go into all the world and preach the gospel to all creation. Whoever believes and is baptized will be saved, but whoever does not believe will be condemned."

Mark 16:14-16

Oh, the People You'll Meet - Missionaries

As we wrap up our series looking at some of the people Jesus met on his way to the cross and after his resurrection, we see Jesus meeting the Eleven. After rebuking them for their lack of faith, he forgives them with his word of peace (John 20:21-23). Then he sends them out into the world to carry out his mission of preaching the gospel.

In your life you will meet a similar group. You will meet missionaries, those sent by God to preach the good news in places you aren't. While you may not personally meet many of the missionaries our church body sends out into all the world, you can "meet" them and learn more about them and the people they reach with the good news of Jesus on the <u>WELS Missions website</u>. Pray for them and their work. Support them with your offerings.

Like the other people that were in this series, we realize that we also meet this type of person in the mirror. We believe that Jesus is the only answer for humankind's dilemma of sin and death. We believe that Jesus is the only means by which anyone can have a right relationship with God. And so, we who know and believe that good news want to share it with others. Having heard our Lord's rebuke of our sin and his forgiving words of peace, we are compelled to share that same message with others. The Lord of the Church sends us into our world, to the place we live, to the people we know.

Prayer: Dear risen Lord, the world is filled with people who need to hear about your love for them. Help us do all we can with our prayers, our offerings, and our lives to help carry the good news of your saving love into all the world. Amen.