

**GOSPEL PEARLS** 

## The duty to proclaim Jesus

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And Jesus called the twelve together and gave them power and authority over all demons and to cure diseases, and he sent them out to proclaim the kingdom of God and to heal. And he said to them, "Take nothing for your journey, no staff, nor bag, nor bread, nor money; and do not have two tunics. And whatever house you enter, stay there, and from there depart. And wherever they do not receive you, when you leave that town shake off the dust from your feet as a testimony against them." And they departed and went through the villages, preaching the gospel and healing everywhere. (Luke 9: 1-6)

Whoever does not welcome the Jesus' disciples, those who are sent to proclaim His gospel, does not in fact welcome Jesus himself. A follower of Christ does not manifest his own will and thoughts in his mission, but those of his Lord. We know very well that Jesus desires to be followed out of love and, therefore, the response to His call by men must be freely willed. There can be no love without freedom. In fact, one cannot force love. The disciples, therefore, must accept that not all men will embrace the Gospel. But

all men around us have the right to know who Jesus really is. So, let us never shy away from our chances to evangelise.