Sermon: **“The Twelve were sent out by Jesus with the following instructions”** (Matthew 10.5)

Who is your OT hero? Abraham, Moses, Elijah were all wanderers as was Jesus.

One reason for itinerancy is for presbyters not to be fixed in one place, but many are fixed spiritually!

And just because someone is physically fixed, does not mean spiritually fixed, though tendency is there.

Matthew passage has 3 parts – Jesus sees needs around him, he appoints the 12, and sends them out.

Who were the 12? All men. Some fishermen, one southerner, one tax collector, one zealot – diversity.

Tells us that Jesus, and thus the church, needs diversity in members and in leadership.

TEXT. ‘Lockdown’ was the start of the church. When finally they could all get together what instructions would God have given? Have services beginning at 10.00, followed by morning tea, buy a van so you can get less able folk there, set up committees to gather money, build a church, organise socials and fundraisers, study groups, Choir, Music Team, etc?

Please note, I am not knocking these things.

TEXT – what *were* the instructions? “Go to the lost sheep, preach Kingdom of God is near, heal, dead back to life, drive out demons.” All this is very different, isn’t it?

Look at this differently. What are our core purposes today? Worship, Fellowship and Mission.

Worship – Sunday, and other times

Fellowship – just being together, morning tea, study groups, pastoral visiting, and socials.

Mission – three purposes (caring, society change, sharing good news); we mainly focus on first.
How many got involved in climate change marches, black lives matter, writing to MPs?

When was last time you talked to someone outside church about why faith matters to you?

TEXT. Jesus said what he said to the 12 because of what he saw (Matthew 9.35-38)

What might Jesus be saying to us, now we have emerged from a time when the usual activities ceased yet we remained his people? Now is a golden opportunity to rethink; not necessarily doing new things but doing the old things differently, with our core purposes in mind.

Simply to go back to what we did in the past is to lose point of why we do what we do.

Like Abraham, Moses and Elijah, and Jesus, we need to be a movement!