

Commissioned To Do Personal Work

Introduction

1. **Many Christians today are not interested in doing any personal work.**
 - A. **Some may even ask “Why should I be concerned about personal work?”**
 - B. **Some may reason that “it seems to produce such little results.”**

When Benjamin Franklin wished to interest the people of Philadelphia in street lighting, he didn't try to persuade them by just talking about it. He hung a beautiful lantern on a long bracket in front of his home. He kept the glass highly polished. Every evening at the approach of dusk, he carefully lit the wick. People saw the light from a distance and when they walked in its light, found that it helped them to avoid sharp stones on the pavement. Others placed light at their homes, and soon Philadelphia recognized the need for street lighting.

As others learn of the peace and joy you have in your life in Christ, they will recognize their need for Him. Your consistent example in word and DEED may be just what someone is waiting for!

2. **The Bible fact is that Jesus commissioned His disciples to do personal work. As a result, we can learn that we, in turn, have an obligation to carry out the instructions of Jesus.**

Jesus Commanded His Disciples to Seek the Lost

1. **He let it be known that He has ALL authority and therefore expects His disciples to obey His instructions.**

Matthew 28:18-20 And Jesus came and spoke to them, saying, "All authority has been given to Me in heaven and on earth. **Go therefore and make disciples of all the nations**, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, **teaching them to observe all things that I have commanded you**; and lo, I am with you always, even to the end of the age."

Luke 24:46-48 Then He said to them, "Thus it is written, and thus it was necessary for the Christ to suffer and to rise from the dead the third day, and that **repentance and remission of sins should be preached in His name to all nations**, beginning at Jerusalem.

- A. **They didn't take this charge lightly!**
- B. **Obedience to this command was proof of their love for Him.**
John 14:15
Matthew 7:21

The New Testament Describes it as Glad Tidings

1. We see what the Gospel does for lost souls who surrender their lives to the Savior - it is truly **GLAD TIDINGS!**

◆ **Gospel literally means "good news" or "glad tidings."**

A. One receives the "forgiveness of sins"

Acts 2:38

B. One is the recipient of a "new joy!"

Acts 2:46-47 So continuing daily with one accord in the temple, and breaking bread from house to house, they ate their food with gladness and simplicity of heart, praising God and having favor with all the people. And the Lord added to the church daily those who were being saved.

C. It gives an individual a reason for living and a renewed confidence in death.

Acts 7:55-60

2. Because of this good news in their lives, the early Christians had a desire to share it with others.

A. The apostle Paul wrote:

2 Corinthians 5:14-15, 20

The World Is Lost Without the Gospel

1. The fact is – sinners are **lost** if they don't obey the good news of salvation.

2 Thessalonians 1:6-9

Mark 16:16 He who believes **and is** baptized **will be saved**; but he who does not believe will be condemned.

2. The Gospel is the only way alien sinners can enter into a proper relationship with God.

Romans 1:16-17

3. But — men cannot obey the Gospel **unless** they hear it.

Romans 10:14-17

A. Who told you about Christ and the wonderful gospel?

B. Who's going to tell others?

Christians Have an Obligation to Spread the Gospel

1. **Disregarding the commandments of God is just as wrong as committing things forbidden.**

James 4:17

1 Corinthians 9:16-17 For if I preach the gospel, I have nothing to boast of, for **necessity is laid upon me**; yes, **woe is me if I do not preach the gospel!**

2. **Soul winning is the highest — the best work that a Christian can be engaged in.**

A. **When we learn the truth, know the truth, then we will **WANT** to tell the truth to others.**

1) **The problem is - most have not learned!**

2) **We cannot tell what we don't know!**

Hebrews 5:12-14

3. **Jesus is our example in seeking others.**

Luke 19:10 for the Son of Man has come **to seek** and to save that which was lost."

A. **The fact is — Christians will be lost if we do not bear fruit.**

John 15:1-2 "I am the true vine, and My Father is the vinedresser. Every branch in Me that **does not bear fruit He takes away**; and every branch that bears fruit He prunes, that it may bear more fruit."

A. **This verse is certainly talking about our righteousness and obedience to Christ. But those doing His will also seek and save others.**

4. **Soul winning should become a natural part of our lives.**
 - A. **Just like the vine that naturally bears fruit.**
2 Corinthians 4:12-14
 - 1) **Speak what?** - *“teaching them to observe all things...”*
(Matthew 28:19)

Conclusion

1. **The spreading of the gospel is not just a preacher responsibility. It is all of our responsibility as Christians.**
 - A. **We all need to talk to others about the gospel of Christ.**
 - B. **Jesus told us to pray for laborers so souls can be harvested.**
Notice his words:

Matthew 9:37-38 Then He said to His disciples, “The harvest truly is plentiful, but **the laborers are few**. Therefore pray the Lord of the harvest **to send out laborers into His harvest.**”

