

Go Into All the World

Introduction

1. **What do you think is the greatest need in the church today? Some might think it is to have more preachers, elders, or deacons. Others might think it is to have better meeting houses or better Bible classes.**
 - A. **Even though these are needed, one of the greatest needs in the Lord's church today is for more members to be personal evangelists. The gospel message is to be taken to the world.**
 - B. **When we compare our efforts in teaching others today with the successful efforts of the church of the first century we see that there is definitely something lacking.**
2. **Jesus' great commission is one of the most familiar teachings, and yet it is one of the most neglected.**

Mark 16:15-16 And He said to them, "Go into all the world and preach the gospel to every creature." He who believes and is baptized will be saved; but he who does not believe will be condemned.

3. **So why is it that Christians are not going and teaching the gospel of Christ to their neighbors today?**
 - A. **One reason may be because a lack of motivation to be a soul winner.**
 - 1) **Three things are necessary before one will ever be able to lead other souls to Jesus.**
Love for God; Love for other souls; love for our own soul.
 - B. **Another reason may be because of indifference toward soul winning.**
 - 1) **That indifference can be removed by going to the Bible and learn why EVERY Christian ought to be actively seeking to save souls.**

Christ Was a Soul Winner

1. As Christians we must strive to imitate the Lord's example in all things, especially in seeking the lost.
 - A. He was always willing and ready to teach multitudes of people as we read in Matthew 5-7, or individuals.
 - 1) He taught Nicodemus in John 3:1-13.
 - 2) He taught the Woman of Samaria in John 4:1-26
John 4:5-15
 - a. Jesus looked for and took opportunity to teach!
 - B. Jesus came to save sinners and His aim was always the same, that is to challenge every individual to obey God's will.

Early Christians Were Soul Winners

1. The disciples were to begin in Jerusalem (Acts 1-2) to preach the gospel to every creature in their generation.
 - A. Even persecution did not keep them from their duty for they taught **"daily...in every house"** (Acts 5:42)
 - B. In Acts 8:1-4 we read where they "went everywhere preaching the word".
Acts 8:1-4
 - C. The Christians of the first century took the great commission seriously. They understood what the Lord meant when He said "GO". They did go, and so must we!

Every Christian Has this Responsibility

1. **The scriptures plainly teach that each and every Christian has a personal responsibility to seek the lost.**

A. **We learn that it is every Christian's responsibility by reading the following scriptures:**

Matthew 28:18-20

2 Timothy 2:2 And the things that you have heard from me among many witnesses, commit these to faithful men who will be able to teach others also.

1 Peter 3:15 But sanctify the Lord God in your hearts, and always be ready to give a defense to everyone who asks you a reason for the hope that is in you, with meekness and fear;

1) **Each child of God is responsible to do their part.**

B. **Individual responsibility is emphasized throughout the N.T.**

Philippians 1:14 and most of the brethren in the Lord, having become confident by my chains, are much more **bold to speak the word without fear.**

Jude 1:3 Beloved, while I was very diligent to write to you concerning our common salvation, I found it necessary to write to you exhorting **you to contend earnestly for the faith** which was once for all delivered to the saints.

C. **Every Christian must shoulder their own responsibility. Our congregation has roughly 16 members and therefore should have 16 personal evangelists.**

1) **It is urgent that EVERY Christian here get involved in seeking the lost now, wherever we are or whatever we are doing.**

Soul Winning Is Good for the Soul Winner

1. It has been stated that “the saved are saved to save others”. Every Christian needs to be faithful as we cannot do anything apart from Christ.
John 15:1-6
 - A. Seeking the lost pays great dividends in this life.
 - 1) It promotes dedication, faithfulness, prayer, more Bible study, lack of idleness, as well as a sense of contributing to the cause of Christ.
 - 2) Soul winning gives one encouragement which leads to eternal happiness!
2. Soul Winning gives the Christian great JOY!
 - A. When you see an individual that you taught put on Christ (Gal 3:27), and see their enthusiasm, you can't help but be excited.
 - B. When others see the excitement in the new converts and in the local membership in regard to the care we show toward others, then people will see the need to be faithful, active members of His body, the church.
 - 1) When individuals are converted to Christ, then the church will flourish!

Conclusion

- 1. As we seek those that are lost, we need to remember the words of Paul:**

Ephesians 5:16 redeeming the time, because the days are evil.

- A. Paul also admonished all when he said:**

2 Cor 6:2 "In an acceptable time I have heard you, and **in the day of salvation I have helped you.**" Behold, now is the accepted time; behold, now is the day of salvation.

- 2. We all need to get busy and teach others about Christ.**

- A. Are we presently doing our very best in leading others to Christ?**

- B. Have we JOYFULLY told our friends, family members, and fellow workers what Christ means to us?**

- C. Have we taken the time to study God's Word with them?**

- 1) Remember, the power is in the gospel (Rom 1:16) and the daily lives of Christians is often what causes lost souls to look at the Bible which can save their souls.**

Matthew 5:16 "Let your light so shine before men, that they may see your good works and glorify your Father in heaven.

- 3. Being a soul winner is important because it produces results. It helps every individual Christian as well as the local church to go, grow, and glow for Christ.**

- 1) Why not start this very day to be an active soul winner for Jesus, after all, He's done so much for us!**

