



Bible Study – January 31, 2024

Series: A Study About Sharing Your Faith

Lesson 5: Go and Proclaim the Good News - Mark 16:14-16 (NKJV)

Introduction

I asked myself, “What's next?” when the EBAW Revival and Soul Winning Training ended. Our church has completed one of the most essential spiritual life-changing experiences in the life of the ministry, and we do not need to lose momentum. In the five sessions Minister Johnson presented, we learned practical methods for sharing our faith with anybody at any time. Yet, if we do not act on what we have learned, it will disappoint us and, most of all, the Lord Jesus Christ. From the day of Pentecost to now, our Lord expects His believers to fulfill His commission to GO!

This is not an optional command that He has given His church. Let us revisit the “Great Commission” commandment once again in the following: *“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.” Amen. (Matthew 28:19-20 NKJV)* Look at the action words in these verses: *Make, Baptize, Teach, and Observe*. These are Jesus’ expectations for His disciples. He wanted the church to do these things then, and He wants the church today to do these same things now. Nothing new under the sun is expected.

So, what is Bethel going to do moving forward? Beginning tonight, we will focus on preparing ourselves to GO, GO, GO! I envision our study lessons as practical applications of the tools shared in the EBAW sessions.

Q. Of the four gospel books beginning verses, Mark 1:1 is the only beginning verse proclaiming this. What does it say?

We are all familiar with the Great Commission bible verse mentioned in Matthew 28. However, tonight, we will look at the Lord’s actions and words in [Mark 16:14-16](#). Let’s get started.

When His Disciples Do Not Act

[Mark 16:14](#)

[Later, He appeared to the eleven as they sat at the table, and He rebuked their unbelief and hardness of heart because they did not believe those who had seen Him after He had risen.](#)



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It was later, the same day after His resurrected appearance to Mary Magdalene (V 9), that Jesus appeared to His eleven disciples as they ate their meal. Again, this is His resurrected appearance with them. Unfortunately for the disciples, He was upset with them. He rebuked or strongly criticized them for their unbelief in His resurrection (a significant part of the gospel) and their hardness of heart towards those disciples sharing the good news of His resurrection. They refuse to believe the testimony of the eyewitnesses who reported that the Lord was alive.

Now, if He rebuked those disciples who followed Him from the beginning of His earthly ministry, how much more would He rebuke the 95.0% of the Christians today who will never lead one person to Christ, as Minister Johnson said? Does Bethel want to be a part of the 95.0% not doing His commission or the 5.0% that is obediently going and sharing the good news? This is genuine missionary outreach when the Body of Christ goes as commanded.

Q. What do you think are some reasons Christians today are unconcerned about the eternal condemnation of lost people? Where is the spiritual disconnect?

Go and Proclaim

Acts 16:15

And He said to them, *"Go into all the world and preach the gospel to every creature."*

Let's observe some more. When saints today hear the word "preach," they immediately think that the pastors and teachers are responsible for doing that. But, in reality, it is the responsibility of all believers to preach or proclaim the gospel everywhere in the world. Jesus told His disciples to go into the world and proclaim the good news to everyone. They were not to pick and choose who they would share or not share this good news with. As Paul the apostle declares, the gospel is for everyone who believes (*Romans 1:16*). How can they believe if they never hear it?

Isaiah the prophet expressed the wonderfulness of proclaiming the gospel in the following verse: *How beautiful upon the mountains Are the feet of him who brings good news, Who proclaims peace, Who brings glad tidings of good things, Who proclaims salvation, Who says to Zion, "Your God reigns!" (Isaiah 52:7 NKJV)*. The apostle embraced these words as he spoke about Israel's rejection of the gospel in *Romans 10:14-15*. So, all Christians need to go and proclaim this good news to those who have not heard it. Are they family, friends, neighbors, co-workers, people in the marketplace, enemies, or such? GO!



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Q. Minister Johnson said that 90.0% of Christians will never try to lead somebody to Christ. What are some of the reasons for this?

To Believe or Not to Believe

Mark 16:16

"He who believes and is baptized will be saved, but he who does not believe will be condemned."

The response to proclaiming the gospel will be yes or no. Jesus said that those who believe it will be saved. How? By the power of GOD'S salvation from spiritual death, which is the penalty for sin. This is the inward receiving of the gospel by faith. Also, the believer will be baptized, which will be the outward public expression of that faith by water baptism. However, Jesus knows everything, and He made His disciples aware then and now that there will be those who do not believe the gospel. The results will be eternal condemnation by GOD on the day of final judgment ([Mark 9:43-48](#)). The reason for being condemned is unbelief.

Q. Jesus expressed three times in Mark 9:43-48 a warning about the effect of sin. What is the expression? What is the expression referencing?

Endnotes

1. Drs. J. F. Walvoord and R. B. Zuck, *The Bible Knowledge Commentary New Testament* (Colorado Springs: Chariot Victor Publishing, 1983).
2. Unless otherwise stated, all Scripture is taken from *The Holy Bible, New King James Version®*, NKJV®, Copyright©1982 by Thomas Nelson, Inc.® Used by permission. All rights reserved.