GO INTO ALL THE WORLD

I. **Mark 16:15** - "You are to go into all the World and preach the Good News to everyone, everywhere."

A. Can you imagine what a mind boggling statement this must have been to these eleven whining, hard, unbelieving men.

1. They didn't even have the faith to go on and now they are told to go into all the world.

2. They were very limited in where they could go.

B. Lets face it what the Lord was telling them and is us impossible!

1. They couldn't do what the Lord told them to do in this passage of scripture and neither can you.
   
   a. It requires talents and resources that you don't possess.

   b. You are too limited - face it you don't have what it takes to get the job done.

2. The Lord seldom calls you to any task that you can perform acceptably without His help.

When John Paton was translating the Bible for a South Seas island tribe, he discovered that they had no word for trust or faith. One day a native who had been running hard came into the missionary's house, flopped himself in a large chair and said, "It's good to rest my whole weight on this chair." "That's it," said Paton. "I'll translate faith as 'resting one's whole weight on God.'"

a. When limited men hook up with an unlimited God anything is possible. Luke 18:27 - "What man can't do, God can do." (beck)

b. The "Can Do" God will do it through the "Can't Do" man

   We need passion in our faith! Instead of praying, "If I should die before I wake," we should pray, "Lord wake me up before I die!" - Tony Compolo

c. It's always the Lord's intention that when He calls you to some impossible task to accompany you. Matthew 28:19-20 - "Go and I will go with you."

d. Your going engages His power, provision, and presence.

e. Limiting what you can attempt for God to only those things you know you can accomplish requires no faith.
Some Christians are so afraid of failure that they become reserved, overly cautious, and uninvolved in life. They follow a policy of guarded living, holding back time, talents, and treasure from God's service. Their motto is: To keep from failing -- don't try! On the other hand, those who are willing to make mistakes and risk failure are the ones who ultimately achieve great things. Instead of being filled with fear, they go forward in faith. Problems are challenges. While they may not all be solved, these courageous people would rather live with that reality than have a clean record of no failures and no accomplishments. Benjamin Franklin said one time, "The man who does things makes many mistakes, but he never makes the biggest mistake of all -- doing nothing."

f. Hudson Taylor once said: "There are three phases in most great tasks undertaken for God - Impossible - difficult - done.

Paul Harvey has rightly said, "If you don't live it, you don't believe it."

II. Matthew 9:35-38 - We need to go so that we might see, we need to see so that we might feel, and we need to feel so that we might pray, and we need to pray so that the Lord of the Harvest will send out workers.

A. Jesus Went - Matthew 28:18-19 - The Lord has commanded us to go. Most of us don't go for two reasons.

1. Not Mature enough - Jesus' promise to His disciples was more than maturity. He did not say "Follow me and I will make you." He said, "Follow me and I will make you fishers of men. I will teach you to do something."

2. Don't know where to go - Acts 16:4-9 - The empowering and the guidance comes as we go.

B. Jesus Saw - Its only as we go will we be able to see the condition of the multitudes - Proverbs 29:18

1. He was seeing past there physical condition and was seeing there Spiritual condition

   a. Fainted or distressed - they had been rend and mangled like piranha - they wanted help.

   b. Scattered or Downcast - they have cast themselves down from weariness - they were destitute of faithful guides - they were disillusioned of leaders.

2. We need to see that the multitudes want help and guidance. Don't see their sin - see their need.
C. Jesus Felt - If we go we shall see and if we truly see we wil feel compassion

1. **Compassion** - Compassion is a mixture of love and sorrow, its an emotion that causes one to do something.

2. Compassion will cause us to move beyond self interest and self awareness - it will move us to be self-sacrificing - I Corinthians 9:23.

3. **Luke 10:30-37** - Compassion moved him to do something. There are three attitudes that are displayed here:
   a. Robbers - What's yours is mine and I'm going to take it - they saw only what they didn't have.
   b. Levites - What's mine is mine and you can't have it, they saw only what they had.
   c. Samaritan - What's mine is yours and you can have it, if you need it - he saw what others didn't have.

D. Jesus Prayed - Its in going, seeing, and feeling that will really make us pray.

1. Because of what Jesus saw and felt as a result of going He was then able to incite his disciples to pray

2. The greek word for pray here means "cry out in esperation" knowing that unless God does something nothing will get done.

   a. We are not only to make God known to people, we are to make people known to God.
   b. God doesn't hear the prayers of sinners. Isaiah 59:1-2 & John 9:31

4. The Greek word for “send forth” is - ekballo -to cast out, drive out, to send out with a notion of violence

III. HOW SHOULD I GO? WHAT DO I NEED?

A. You need to go believing that there is:

1. The capacity to know Jesus in everyone - Ecc. 3:11

2. **Within everyone is a willingness to live for God** - Colossians 1:16

3. Everyone is on a quest for God - Mark 1:35-37
B. You need to go loving people

1. "Friend of Sinners" - in this phrase is the key to effective evangelism.

   - it's not in handing out tracks
   - it's not in canvassing your neighborhood
   - it's not in big revival meetings and rallies
   - it's not in evangelistic radio or tv programs
   - it's in being a friend

2. Noah Webster's 1828 dictionary defines friend in this way: "one who is attached to another by affection." Proverbs 17:17

3. Some definitions of a friend:

   - somebody that knows all about you and loves you anyway
   - the one who steps in when the whole world steps out.
   - one who never gets in the way, except when you are on the way down.
   - a friend attaches himself to someone and never let's go. (mine)
   - 1 Corinthians 13:4-8 (the Bible's)

It was a quiet December evening on Ward C43, the oncology unit at Georgetown University Hospital. Many of the rooms around the central nurses' station were dark and empty, but in Room 11 a man lay critically ill. The patient was Jack Swigert, the man who had piloted the Apollo 13 lunar mission in 1970 and was now Congressman-elect from Colorado's 6th Congressional District. Cancer, the great leveler, now waged its deadly assault on his body. With the dying man was a tall, quiet visitor, sitting in the spot he had occupied almost every night since Swigert had been admitted. Though Bill Armstrong, U.S. Senator from Colorado and chairman of the Senate subcommittee handling Washington's hottest issue, social security, was one of the busiest and most powerful men in Washington, he was now visiting this room night after night as a powerful politician. He was here as a deeply committed Christian and as Jack Swigert's friend, fulfilling a responsibility he would not delegate or shirk, much as he dislikes hospitals. This night Bill leaned over the bed and spoke quietly to his friend "Jack, you're going to be all right. God loves you. I love you. You are surrounded by friends who are praying for you. You're going to be all right." The only response was Jack's tortured and uneven breathing. Bill pulled his chair closer to the bed and opened his Bible. "Psalm 23," he began to read in a steady voice. "The Lord is my shepherd, I shall not want...." Time passed. "Psalm 150," Bill began, then his skin prickled. Jack's ragged breathing had stopped. He leaned down over the bed, then called for help. As he watched the nurse examining Jack, Bill knew there was nothing more he could do. His friend was dead. Politicians are busy people, especially Senate committee chairmen. Yet, it never occurred to Bill Armstrong that he was too busy to be at the hospital. Nothing dramatic or heroic about his decision -- just a friend doing what he could. Holiness is obeying God -- loving one another as He loved us.
4. **Jesus understood you can't catch already clean fish.**

The neighborhood bar is possibly the best counterfeit there is to the fellowship Christ wants to give his church. The bar is an imitation dispensing liquor instead of grace, escape rather than reality, but it is permissive, it is accepting and it is an inclusive fellowship. It is unshockable. It is democratic. You can tell people secrets and they usually don't tell others or even want to. The bar flourishes not because most people are alcoholics, but because God has put into the human heart, the desire to know and be known, to love and be loved. And so many people seek a counterfeit at the price of a few beers.

C. **You need to go with a life laid down.**

1. People are still brought into the kingdom through death. Death releases life, it releases grace
   
   **2 Cor. 4:11-12**

2. **When you lay your life down for people they will step on it. But that's when real death takes place and resurrection power is released.**

   I need a truer vision, Lord. A vision filled with Thee To see the needy world again With eyes willing to see. A world where people are hurting And hungry every day, A world that's ready and waiting To hear what You would say. I need a wider vision, Lord, A vision filled with Thee. To see that lonely woman Down the street from me. The teenager who's all mixed up, The child who's been abused, The day-to-day cares in my neighborhood. Lord, I want to be used. Give me a new vision, Lord. A vision filled with Thee, To see the world and my neighborhood As Your eyes would see. Help me use my gifts, dear Lord, In ways that glorify You, To act with loving kindness Toward those with a different view. A truer, wider, new vision, Lord. That's what I need To carry out Your commands In word and thought and deed.