

A Look in the Mirror – 2

"Going" in this World

WITH ALL THE TURMOIL, DYSFUNCTION, & SICKNESS IN THIS WORLD, HOW ARE YOU DOING? ARE YOU SICK OF IT? ARE YOU DEPRESSED? ARE YOU HANGING ON?

"Coming and going" is what we do in this world; If we are not "coming and going", then we are dead. If you are reading this, then you are not dead. THEN WE MUST "COME & GO" BECAUSE WE LIVE OUR LIVES HERE AND NOW. WE MUST DEAL WITH THAT WHICH SURROUNDS US.

Remember what Jesus said: You are not OF this world, but you live IN this world.

- Matthew 21:2 Jesus sent two disciples and said, "Go into that village, and immediately you will find a donkey & colt tied up."
- Matthew 9:13 Jesus explaining His purpose, "But go and learn what this means - I DESIRE MERCY AND NOT SACRIFICE. For I did not come to call the righteous, but sinners to repentance".
- Mark 5:34 Jesus said to the sick woman, "Daughter, your faith has made you well. Go in peace and be healed of your affliction."
- Mark 1:44 Jesus said to the leper, "...go your way, show yourself to the priest ..."
- Luke 10:3 Jesus said to the 70 disciples, "Go your way; behold, I send you out as lambs among wolves ..."
- Matthew 28:10 Jesus said to the women, "Do not be afraid. Go and tell My brethren to go to Galilee, and there they will see Me."
- Mark 16:15 Jesus said to the eleven, "Go into all the world and preach the gospel to everyone."
- Matthew 28:19 Jesus said to the eleven, "All authority has been given to Me in heaven and on earth. Go therefore and make disciples of all the nations ..."

IT'S TIME TO USE OUR LIVES ON THE OFFENSIVE.

1. Matthew 21:2 (GO AND FIND)

- Isn't it time we quit whining about the hard life that we are living, and start looking for opportunities to find the hurting people & help them? _Yes _No
- What could you do where you are right now to help someone? _____

- Have you ever asked the Lord to give you creative ideas to find people? _Yes _No
- Do you think that the plan & will of God could include your efforts & work? _Yes _No
- Do you remember a time when someone found you or focused on you? Share.

- Are you going to let the abuse you have taken keep you from the abused? _Yes _No
- The disciples trusted Jesus; they found the donkey. Could you trust Him? _Yes _No
- To "Go & Find" will get you moving; it's time to get moving for God. Right? _Yes _No

2. Matthew 9:13 (GO AND LEARN)

- a. Check the verse. Why did Jesus come? _____
- b. The Bible is the "Mind of God" in print. Are you reading it to know God? _Yes _No
- c. What are you reading in the Bible in your private time now? _____

- d. If you said "nothing", shame on you. Be honest. Why not? _____

- e. The last time you bought some piece of equipment, did you read the instruction manual so that you would understand it, and know it better? _Yes _No
- f. GOD MADE YOU, KNOWS ALL ABOUT YOU, AND KEEPS YOU ALIVE, would it not be wise to read your "Mankind Instruction Manual". _Yes _No
- g. If you are wondering about some religious topic, why in the world would you let someone else explain it to you without the Bible backing him up? Explain that.

- h. How about a personal matter. God made you and understands all about that personal matter. Should you not consult God? He wrote the Bible, you know? _Yes _No

3. Mark 5:34 (GO IN PEACE)

The woman in this verse had no peace for 12 years due to her physical illness. No one could help. She was embarrassed; she was desperate; yes, she would try "the Lord".

"Peace" = A connection between my life and the plan of God.

- a. Could there be a good connection between your present mess & God? _Yes _No
- b. Do you believe that God has absolutely no plan for your life now? _Yes _No
- c. Past problems are no fun. Can God allow such things for a reason? _Yes _No
- d. The only way to "Go in peace" is to meet Jesus face to face. Have you? _Yes _No
- e. Describe when you met Jesus face to face. _____

- f. Are you mad at where your life is now? What plan do you have to get over this?

- g. "Peace" = looking up at God & agreeing with Him that He is doing a good job running your life no matter whether YOU like it or not. Are you there yet? _Yes _No
- h. Will you start reading something in the Bible every day? _Yes _No

4. Mark 1:44 (GO AND SHOW)

The man in this verse is a leper. He wants to be healed and he knows Jesus can do it.

- a. Are there changes that are needed in your life? Yes No
- b. Are you convinced that Jesus can make those changes if you let Him? Yes No
- c. Name one change you would like to see or allow. _____

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- d. It is possible that your reputation advertises things about your life that you are not proud of now. Must you live under that cloud forever? Are you ready? Yes No
 - e. People may have turned away from you for good reasons. Is that you? Yes No
 - f. You may feel alone; only you have these failures & sins. Is that you? Yes No
 - g. Make some goals that will turn your life around. Include God in this. List them.

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- h. The Christian life is a "walk"; it's a step-by-step journey; Check what you'll do.
 - 1) Don't be too hard on yourself. Start reading the Bible.
 - 2) Flush your selfish pride. Find somebody to help you.
 - 3) Tell God you are sorry when you mess up. He understands.
 - 4) Go find a chaplain or pastor. Tell them you are starting the journey.
 - 5) Concentrate on your own spiritual health & rebuilding before you try to repair past relationships such as marriages & family.

5. Luke 10:3 (GO AND HANG ON)

Jesus is sending these 70 believers (large group of disciples) out to share God and share their own lives with others. IT'S NOT GOING TO BE EASY!

- a. When your life starts to change, you will know it is happening but no one else does. Check if you hear me.
 - 1) Some who knew you before will expect you to crash & burn.
 - 2) People who you have hurt & mistreated will not trust you right away if ever.
 - 3) Some of your previous relationships may never be restored; they're gone.
 - 4) God had not failed you with these people; there are just consequences.
 - 5) You cannot do this Christian life alone; if you try - you are a fool.
 - 6) You need people; do not stay alone; do not push people away; you will want to.
 - 7) For a while, you may not do a ministry. Just grow & live your life.
 - 8) Be as honest as you can be with your struggles; it's hard to trust people.

6. Matthew 28:10 (GO AND TELL)

Jesus had just risen from the dead and the women found an empty tomb.

a. Check if you hear me.

- 1) ___ It is sometimes very hard to tell people that you follow Jesus now.
- 2) ___ Most of the world (your world) does not want to hear the Jesus stuff.
- 3) ___ Remember that people may judge your past before they hear your present.
- 4) ___ You cannot tell something that you do not know firsthand; don't fake it.
- 5) ___ You will not & do not have all the "religious" answers; admit it.
- 6) ___ Be honest about your failures & struggles; that gives hope to searching people.
- 7) ___ Don't expect yourself to be some preacher at the start; be humble.
- 8) ___ Tell your story - your life - your journey. It's about you; it's worth hearing.
- 9) ___ Whatever changes have happened in your life, God gets all the credit

b. Briefly share your journey to God.

7. Mark 16:15 (GO AND PREACH)

- a. According to the verse, what are we to preach? _____
- b. Rom. 3:23 You will tell them that all mankind are _____.
- c. Rom. 6:23 You will tell them that the payment for sin is _____.
- d. John 3:16 You will tell them that _____ paid for the sin.

Remember, that the "Gospel" is the good news about Jesus' death, burial, & resurrection. Don't forget to mention that the good news also means Jesus loves a sinner like you.

- e. Be ready anytime someone asks you to share your favorite verse. ___OK?
- f. Be ready to give a short devotional (talk) from a Bible verse. ___OK?
- g. Be willing to share the way to become a Christian; God wants them. ___OK?
- h. Always consider it a privilege to share & always be ready. ___OK?
- i. Don't expect perfection; the way YOU share will reach someone. ___OK?
- j. Ask God every time you; open your mouth; you want His words. ___OK?
- k. The Holy Spirit teaches us & guides us into all truth. ___OK?

8. Matthew 28:19 (GO AND MAKE DISCIPLES)

This can be with a large group or it can be one-on-one stuff. However, you are taking people beyond becoming a Christian; THIS IS GROWING.

a. Step 1 - Tell them your story.

Step 2 - Show them how to tell their story.

Step 3 - Have them write down their story.

Step 4 - Read the Bible with them.

Step 5 - Pray together.

Step 6 - Meet Regularly & give them assignments.

b. Here's what a disciple needs to know. Match the verse with the "need to know".
Study these in more detail on your own.

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| a. Matthew 28:19-20 | ___ | The need for following Christ |
| b. Acts 1:8 | ___ | The need for obedience |
| c. Romans 10:14-15 | ___ | The need for boldness |
| d. John 1:45 | ___ | The need to function in the Body |
| e. John 15:16 | ___ | The need for training |
| f. Ephesians 4:16 | ___ | The need for commitment |
| g. Matthew 4:19-20 | ___ | The need for power |
| h. Titus 2:3 | ___ | The need to pursue good |
| i. 2 Timothy 2:2 | ___ | The need for fruit |