

## WHAT DO WE DO NOW?

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This week, our study for our Grow Group pertains to what is often called, and appropriately so, the marching orders for the church. Since the church is made up of people, not structures, we are to go and do the following: <sup>19</sup>Go therefore and make disciples of all the nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and the Son and the Holy Spirit, <sup>20</sup>teaching them to observe all that I commanded you; and lo, I am with you always, even to the end of the age.” (Matthew 28:19-20)

As Christians, we have a purpose. Our purpose is to live for Jesus and tell others about the saving grace of Jesus. Do not believe for one second it's the preacher's, Elders', or someone else's responsibility. It is the responsibility of all believers to share their faith with others.

“Therefore do not be ashamed of the testimony about our Lord, nor of me his prisoner, but share in suffering for the gospel by the power of God, who saved us and called us to a holy calling, not because of our works but because of His own purpose and grace, which He gave us in Christ Jesus before the ages began, and which now has been manifested through the appearing of our Savior Christ Jesus, who abolished death and brought life and immortality to light through the gospel,” (II Timothy 1:8-10)

Why do I say we have a purpose? Here is why. “But for this purpose I have raised you up, to show you my power, so that My name may be proclaimed in all the earth.” (Exodus 9:16) Jesus, standing before Pilate, makes this statement. “Then Pilate said to him, “So you are a king?” Jesus answered, “You say that I am a king. For this purpose I was born and for this purpose I have come into the world—to bear witness to the truth. Everyone who is of the truth listens to my voice.” (John 18:37) To bear witness to the truth was not just Jesus' responsibility; it's ours also. His instructions to His disciples before His ascension apply to us modern-day disciples too. “But you will receive power when the Holy Spirit has come upon you, and you will be My witnesses in Jerusalem and in all Judea and Samaria, and to the end of the earth.” (Acts 1:8)

One of many purposes is to try our best to tell the world where it's headed. Perhaps if we realized just how bad hell is, we would be even more concerned and try our best to snatch friends, relatives, and even people we don't know from the fires of never-ending torment. I don't believe anyone can write just how beautiful heaven is or just how horrible hell is. Our human mind has its limitations. But we can warn this world about where sin, such as sexual immorality, will lead. “just as Sodom and Gomorrah and the surrounding cities, which likewise indulged in sexual immorality and pursued unnatural desire, serve as an example by undergoing a punishment of eternal fire.” (Jude 1:7)

According to scripture, those who practice this lifestyle will not enter the gates of heaven. “Or do you not know that the unrighteous will not inherit the kingdom of God? Do not be deceived: neither the sexually immoral, nor idolaters, nor adulterers, nor men who practice homosexuality, nor thieves, nor the greedy, nor drunkards, nor revilers, nor swindlers will inherit the kingdom of God.” (I Corinthians 6:9-10) If you read the next few verses, you'll find there is mercy for those who change and do not practice these sins.

Let's look at some verses about our purpose as disciples of Jesus. “And he said to him, ‘You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your mind.’” (Matthew 22:37) “And Jesus answered him, “It is written, “You shall worship the Lord your God, and him only

shall you serve.” (Luke 4:8) “If anyone serves me, he must follow me; and where I am, there will my servant be also. If anyone serves me, the Father will honor him.” (John 12:26)

This devotion is based on the Great Commission, Matthew 28:19-20. We are the disciples of this day and time. It is our responsibility to carry out. If we don’t carry it out, if we don’t fulfill our purpose, who will? How will people learn of the salvation Jesus offers? Did you realize that as a follower of Jesus, this verse applies to you? “Therefore, we are ambassadors for Christ, as though God were making an appeal through us; we beg you on behalf of Christ, be reconciled to God.” (II Corinthians 5:20)

Please let the verses read here challenge and encourage you to make disciples who, in turn, make disciples who make disciples. “You are the salt of the earth, but if salt has lost its taste, how shall its saltiness be restored? It is no longer good for anything except to be thrown out and trampled under people’s feet. You are the light of the world. A city set on a hill cannot be hidden. Nor do people light a lamp and put it under a basket, but on a stand, and it gives light to all in the house. In the same way, let your light shine before others, so that they may see your good works and give glory to your Father who is in heaven.” (Matthew 5:13-16)

“Do not be conformed to this world, but be transformed by the renewal of your mind, that by testing you may discern what is the will of God, what is good and acceptable and perfect.” (Romans 12:2)

We have a purpose as disciples of Jesus. The purpose is to share the Good News and make more disciples. Have a blessed week and serve Him with gladness.

[CAIN - The Commission \(Official Lyric Video\)](#)