

Keeping the Church Alive #9
Why We Must Go
By Russell Earl

“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” (Matt 28:19-20). The command given to the disciples and to us today is that we are to go everywhere preaching the Gospel. We have direct commands and examples of them being done in God’s Word: *“...went everywhere preaching the gospel”* (Acts 8:4). We have the command to go and to preach the Gospel. Why? People cannot save themselves! *“How then shall they call on Him in whom they have not believed? And how shall they believe in Him of whom they have not heard? And how shall they hear without a preacher”* (Romans 10:14)? So why must we go or help others go.

First, the command from Christ is that we go and teach others the Gospel. We are to go because people many times will not come to you. You must go to them. Just like there was false teaching in Biblical times there is still false teaching today. Therefore another reason we must proclaim God’s Word to them so they will know what the Bible actually says and what they must do.

Second, God desires all men to be saved. *“For this is good and acceptable in the sight of God our Savior, who desires all men to be saved and to come to the knowledge of the truth”* (1 Tim 2:3-4). If we want to be pleasing to God we must do all we can to follow His will. His will is a righteous will because it desires for all men to be saved. So we should have that same desire.

Third, we should want to have part in the work of the Church. Since God commands us to go and preach and teach His Word we should do all we can to fulfill the command. There are some that are unable to go for various reasons: However, they can still have a part in spreading the gospel. How? They can support those who go to these places financially as well as spiritually. We can help support preaching schools and men who desire to work overseas and other places that the gospel isn’t being taught.

Fourth, we should desire to go because we want the world to know that God loves them and desires for them to be saved. God is commanding us through His word to go tell the world about Him and about what He has done for us so that all who are obedient may have eternal life.

God’s command isn’t complicated but it can be difficult to find ways to accomplish such tasks. Those who desire to go overseas or simply to another country have to prepare for such tasks. They have to find a good time to go, a safe place to work when they are there, and the funds to be there even for a short period of time. The list goes on and on. We all can and should have a part in putting God’s Word out into the world. We can go physically. We can send others. We can have Gods Word put out through print, the internet and other ways as well.

We should desire to send God’s message out into the world because God commanded it and that’s really all the reason we need. We should, desire to do so for the same reason God desires it: that those who are obedient would be saved. That is why we must go send out the message of God.