

July 23, 2023 – Sean Brann

Go and Tell



Big Idea

Jesus came to rescue us not to condemn us. Across the world, since the 1st century, each believer has had the mission to GO and share this great news through the power of the Holy Spirit. Those under the influence of Satan have tried to eradicate the Good News of Jesus dying for our sin so that we could have eternal life with God. Despite many being martyred through the ages, Christians were not afraid of those who might kill them because they knew how important it was to follow God's command to spread the Gospel. They passed the truth of God's Good News until it reached our generation. The gospel spread despite Nero, in 64 AD, torturing and killing Christians. In 155 AD 86-year-old Polycarp was martyred saying that he could not blaspheme God who had always taken care of him. In 203 AD 22-year-old Perpetua, chose to allow bulls to gore her to death rather than allow the message of Jesus to be silenced. The Good News spread and in 1773 the life of John Newton, an evil slave trader, was forever changed from evil slave trader to messenger of God's grace. We still sing the words of Newton's sermon that he set to music -- Amazing Grace. In 1780 a journalist, Robert Raikes, started to educate illiterate children using the story of Jesus that he printed and gave to the children. This weekly education grew worldwide into what we know as Sunday School. It is now our turn to continue sharing the Gospel of salvation through Jesus Christ - to do our part so that others avoid eternity in hell. Any time we tell others about Jesus, we are spreading the Good News.

Scripture

Acts 1:8

"But you will receive power when the Holy Spirit comes on you; and you will be my witnesses in Jerusalem, and in all Judea and Samaria, and to the ends of the earth."

Mark 16:15-16

He said to them, "Go into all the world and preach the gospel to all creation. Whoever believes and is baptized will be saved, but whoever does not believe will be condemned."

1 Corinthians 6:9-11

"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 homosexuals, nor thieves, nor the greedy, nor those habitually drunk, nor verbal abusers, nor swindlers, will inherit the kingdom of God. Such were some of you; but you were washed, but you were sanctified, but you were justified in the name of the Lord Jesus Christ and in the Spirit of our God."

Discussion Questions

1. How has your life been impacted by someone who shared the Gospel of Christ?
2. Consider a quote taken from the journal of Jim Elliot, one of 4 missionaries killed in 1956 by a tribe in a deep jungle in Ecuador that a few years later came to know and love Jesus: "He is no fool who gives what he cannot keep to gain what he cannot lose." What do you think that meant to Jim Elliot? What does it mean to you?
3. Consider **Hebrews 12:1** "Therefore, since we also have such a great cloud of witnesses surrounding us, let's rid ourselves of every obstacle and the sin which so easily entangles us, and let's run with endurance the race that is set before us." What does this mean to believers? How can we help each other as we follow God's command to spread the Gospel?

Prayer Focus

Lord, as we look at the world around us, there are so many struggling, there is so much discord and so much discontent. Thank You for bringing the hope and truth of Your salvation to us. Help us to share Your good news with those around us.

Next Steps

This week, intentionally look at those around you and understand that you have the message that will keep them from spending eternity in hell. Then share the Good News of what Jesus did for them.

Leader Tip

Contact your group members during this week and share with them an experience you've had this week with sharing God's Good News. This will encourage them to share the Gospel, and build relationship among themselves and other believers.