

# Sent

## Declaration:

- My eyes are on Jesus
- My heart is tuned to His Spirit
- My ears are listening to His voice
- My mind will believe what He says
- My voice will declare the truth of His word

Have you taken the time to ask yourself, "Why Am I Here?" Now, I am not talking about why you are here on earth, though that's not a bad question to process with the Lord, I am talking about here at this church, this city, here and now.

**Romans 10:13–18 (NIV)** - <sup>13</sup>for, "Everyone who calls on the name of the Lord will be saved."

<sup>14</sup>How, then, can they call on the one they have not believed in? And how can they believe in the one of whom they have not heard? And how can they hear without someone preaching to them? <sup>15</sup>And how can anyone preach unless they are sent? As it is written: "How beautiful are the feet of those who bring good news!"

<sup>16</sup>But not all the Israelites accepted the good news. For Isaiah says, "Lord, who has believed our message?" <sup>17</sup>Consequently, faith comes from hearing the message, and the message is heard through the word about Christ. <sup>18</sup>But I ask: Did they not hear? Of course they did: "Their voice has gone out into all the earth, their words to the ends of the world."

- Do you ever stop and thank God for the person or people that He used to lead you to Christ? How would things be for you if someone hadn't answered the call of God on their lives?

As I processed this with the Lord, I couldn't help but think about all the times we have said, "the Lord has called me/sent me to do such and such". Has He truly? Or are our own preferences getting in the way of the best things?

**Exodus 3:1–12 (NIV)** - <sup>1</sup>Now Moses was tending the flock of Jethro his father-in-law, the priest of Midian, and he led the flock to the far side of the wilderness and came to Horeb, the mountain of God. <sup>2</sup>There the angel of the Lord appeared to him in flames of fire from within a bush. Moses saw that though the bush was on fire it did not burn up. <sup>3</sup>So Moses thought, "I will go over and see this strange

sight—why the bush does not burn up.”<sup>4</sup> When the Lord saw that he had gone over to look, God called to him from within the bush, “Moses! Moses!” And Moses said, “Here I am.”<sup>5</sup> “Do not come any closer,” God said. “Take off your sandals, for the place where you are standing is holy ground.”<sup>6</sup> Then he said, “I am the God of your father, the God of Abraham, the God of Isaac and the God of Jacob.” At this, Moses hid his face, because he was afraid to look at God.<sup>7</sup> The Lord said, “I have indeed seen the misery of my people in Egypt. I have heard them crying out because of their slave drivers, and I am concerned about their suffering.<sup>8</sup> So I have come down to rescue them from the hand of the Egyptians and to bring them up out of that land into a good and spacious land, a land flowing with milk and honey—the home of the Canaanites, Hittites, Amorites, Perizzites, Hivites and Jebusites.<sup>9</sup> And now the cry of the Israelites has reached me, and I have seen the way the Egyptians are oppressing them.

<sup>10</sup> So now, go. I am sending you to Pharaoh to bring my people the Israelites out of Egypt.”<sup>11</sup> But Moses said to God, “Who am I that I should go to Pharaoh and bring the Israelites out of Egypt?”<sup>12</sup> And God said, “I will be with you. And this will be the sign to you that it is I who have sent you: When you have brought the people out of Egypt, you will worship God on this mountain.”

You want to know if you’ve been sent? Does the call make you feel all warm and fuzzy or is there some resistance? Have you had your “burning bush” moment? If so, when was it. Can you remember the details?

As you analyze the season of your life, ask yourself:  
“Have I been sent or am I on a personal crusade or self-imposed exile?”

### **Was does it look like when we aren’t sent?**

People bringing the ark to fight the philistines (1 Samuel 4)

Jeremiah 28:15 - Hananiah the false prophet

Balaam was told not to go with them to curse Israel. God didn’t change His mind. (Numbers 22)

– He began to “hear God” through his filter of greed. (2 Peter 2:15)

The lying prophet - 1 Kings 13:18

Are we testing the spirits to see if they are from God? A friend shared a while back, something has to happen in order to be tested. If your church and ministry is dead, that speaks for itself!

### **Was does it look like to be sent?**

The Israelites leave Egypt. Many people agree that God led them out, but they get hung up on why they spent 40 years wandering in the desert. Was that God too? YES!

Paul was stopped on his journey and told to go to Macedonia.

**Acts 16:6-10 NIV** - "Paul and his companions traveled throughout the region of Phrygia and Galatia, having been kept by the Holy Spirit from preaching the word in the province of Asia. When they came to the border of Mysia, they tried to enter Bithynia, but the Spirit of Jesus would not allow them to. So they passed by Mysia and went down to Troas. During the night Paul had a vision of a man of Macedonia standing and begging him, "Come over to Macedonia and help us." After Paul had seen the vision, we got ready at once to leave for Macedonia, concluding that God had called us to preach the gospel to them."

**John 9:1-7 (NIV)** - <sup>1</sup>As he went along, he saw a man blind from birth. <sup>2</sup>His disciples asked him, "Rabbi, who sinned, this man or his parents, that he was born blind?"

<sup>3</sup>"Neither this man nor his parents sinned," said Jesus, "but this happened so that the works of God might be displayed in him. <sup>4</sup>As long as it is day, we must do the works of him who sent me. Night is coming, when no one can work. <sup>5</sup>While I am in the world, I am the light of the world." <sup>6</sup>After saying this, he spit on the ground, made some mud with the saliva, and put it on the man's eyes. <sup>7</sup>"Go," he told him, "wash in the Pool of Siloam" (this word means "Sent"). So the man went and washed, and came home seeing.

I spoke to a friend about this scripture this week. Isn't it interesting that the name of the pool was "sent". Jesus was sent by the Father, then He sent the man. I love this because it reminds me of Matthew 28, the great commission. He says, "All authority is given to me from the Father.."

**Matthew 28:18-20 (NIV)** - <sup>18</sup>Then Jesus came to them and said, "All authority in heaven and on earth has been given to me. <sup>19</sup>Therefore go and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, <sup>20</sup>and teaching them to obey everything I have commanded you. And surely I am with you always, to the very end of the age."

With the news sharing details about a potential WW3, there's been an uptick online regarding conscription to military service. Everyone is looking for a loop-hole. How can I opt out of service? There are too many christians that do the same thing.

This is a worldly example, but many aren't responding to God's call or they're going in their own wisdom and power. In doing so, they are bringing a watered down gospel that has no power in it. Or, they only want the "fire insurance" and other benefits, but don't want to obey the Lord and serve one another. Then we wonder why people, ministries, and leaders fall. We must return to the blueprint that Jesus set before us. No, you can't do it better. God's strategies will come to you and when they do, you won't need to fight to explain or justify it.

**2 Corinthians 5:20 (NIV)** - We are therefore Christ's ambassadors, as though God were making his appeal through us. We implore you on Christ's behalf: Be reconciled to God.

We are His ambassadors in the ministry of reconciliation. How many are fulfilling this mandate?

We don't need to go in guns blazing, we need to often find the leaders in the region and work WITH THEM to see the culture and people changed to Kingdom culture. Everyone wants to go in like spies or the secret service and they end up doing more damage than good. No, be humble and teachable. Throw away any pride and glory seeking. Find the place you're called to and go to that leader, submit to the vision God has given to them and serve them. In doing so, the Word shows us that God will prepare a place for us and we will be able to walk in our giftings and callings RIGHT THERE. \*\*Some are called to start new things in a region, but I still believe God wants His people to be unified and mutually submitted to one another. So, connect with the leaders and be willing to serve!

**Acts 2:42-47 NIV** - "They devoted themselves to the apostles' teaching and to fellowship, to the breaking of bread and to prayer. Everyone was filled with awe at the many wonders and signs performed by the apostles. All the believers were together and had everything in common. They sold property and possessions to give to anyone who had need. Every day they continued to meet together in the temple courts. They broke bread in their homes and ate together with glad and sincere hearts, praising God and enjoying the favor of all the people. And the Lord added to their number daily those who were being saved."

**Acts 4:31-35 NIV** - "After they prayed, the place where they were meeting was shaken. And they were all filled with the Holy Spirit and spoke the word of God boldly. All the believers were one in heart and mind. No one claimed that any of their possessions was their own, but they shared everything they had. With great power the apostles continued to testify to the resurrection of the Lord Jesus. And God's grace was so powerfully at work in them all that there were no needy persons among them. For from time to time those who owned land or houses sold them, brought the money from the sales and put it at the apostles' feet, and it was

distributed to anyone who had need."

(It's hard to distribute to those who have need when you can't take your hands off it!)

This is a call. God is asking us to search our hearts and ask Him what He has called us to do here. How can you serve the people, the ministry, and your leaders? In doing THAT, I believe the Lord will clarify and accelerate the specific call or ministry on your life. We need to stop picking churches based on "what they can do for me" and instead, "Lord, how can I serve you here"?