

Go and...

I. Slide#1 **Announce:**

- A. Slide#2 Invite out to Wed 7pm - Well, we have all 4 STM's have arrived. Read Vs.
 1. Acts 14:27 On arrival, they got the church together and reported on their trip, telling in detail how God had used them to throw the door of faith wide open so people of all nations could come streaming in. Come & hear the returning teams God stories.
- B. Slide#3 JM3 - We have invitation cards(little). And Registration Cards. And Flyers to post.
 1. Can sign up today in info booth or anytime online justice-matters.com
- C. Slide#4,5 Gifts For Eternity - Share totals.

II. Intro:

- A. Slide#6 Title: **Go and...**
- B. Outline: Go & Believe; Go & Authenticate; Go & Preach. And end with our Mission/Motto Go & Love.

III. Slide#7 **GO and BELIEVE (12-14)**

- A. Note: did not believe – is repeated 3 x's (vs.11,13,14)
 1. The disciples were **not preprogrammed to believe** that Jesus was alive. In fact their unbelief was **stubborn**. NIV *Stubborn refusal to believe*.
 2. The only thing that renewed their faith was **the appearance** of their Res Lord.
- B. So why did Jesus specifically rebuke their unbelief & hardness of heart? - Because they didn't believe that He rose? (Nope) *because they did not believe those who had seen Him after He had risen*.
 1. They did not believe **the eye witness testimony to the facts...**they had seen Him post resurrection.
 - a) He was making it clear that the witnesses of His resurrection could & should be **trusted**.
 - b) In order to be **valid**, faith has to be grounded on facts.
 - (1) **Historical Faith** says, "Christ lives"; **Saving Faith** says, "Christ lives in me!"
- C. We'll come back to vs.15,16.

IV. Slide#8 **GO and AUTHENTICATE (17-20)**

- A. Slide#9a Signs – an evidence that an utterance or action was authentic & trustworthy. Walvoord/Zuck
 1. These signs **authenticated** the faith of the **early believers rather than** the personal faith of **any one of them**.
 2. **Brian don't you believe some of these signs still happen today?**
Yes, but not to **Validate** God's Word (It's since been penned), **but now** To **build up & edify** the body of Christ, as Paul said.

- B. So the Word of God was authenticated (*confirmed*) by...
- C. Slide#9b Casting out demons as demonstrated in Acts 16.
- Acts 16:16-18 a certain slave girl possessed with a spirit of divination met us, who brought her masters much profit by fortune-telling. This girl followed Paul and us, and cried out, saying, "These men are the servants of the Most High God, who proclaim to us the way of salvation." And this she did for many days. But Paul, greatly annoyed, turned and said to the spirit, "I command you in the name of Jesus Christ to come out of her." And he came out that very hour."
- D. Slide#9c Speaking with new tongues - These would be *intelligible foreign languages* not previously known to the speakers.
- This was demonstrated at Pentecost & in the life of the early church, and still continues today.
- E. Slide#9d Protection from Serpents - This cannot be used as a basis for the deliberate & presumptuous *handling of snakes & drinking poison* which are practiced by certain *extreme religious groups*.
- It is foolish to **tempt** God, but not foolish to **trust** God when obedience to His will takes us into dangerous situations.
 - "**Presumption** can kill us, but **faith** can deliver us."
 - This is the practice of certain Tennessee & Kentucky mountain people who handle rattlesnakes and drink strychnine as evidence of their faith. Often called "*The Church of God with Signs Following*". [est. 5000 members today]
 - George Hensley is commonly considered *the father of contemporary serpent handling*. He was Born around 1880 & died July 25, 1955...yep you guessed it...from a snake bite!
 - Ok, so a better example would be Paul in Acts 28:1-5 when he shook it into the fire.
- F. Slide#9e Drinking poison - No examples in Scripture but James shows us the most common deadly poison, But no man can tame the tongue. It is an unruly evil, full of deadly poison. 3:8
- A Medieval proverb reads, "If a Man's life be lightning, his words are thunder."
- G. Slide#9f Lay hands on the sick - Acts 28:8 w/Publius father, one bad case of Diarrhea. Exercised in the early church & still today.
- H. Slide#9g Received into heaven, Ascension - *The battle was over; the victory was won; the sacrifice He made was accepted, completed, & concluded.*
- I. Slide#9h Sat down at the rt hand of God, Intercession - Rom.8:34 It is Christ who died, and furthermore is also risen, who is even at the right hand of God, who also makes intercession for us.
- J. Slide#9i They went out Going & preaching - They went & preached everywhere.
- What an opportunity & obligation we have to carry the gospel to the whole world.
- K. Slide#9j Indwelling - The Lord working w/them.
- He is working w/His people as they take the gospel to every nation.

2. The message is that this **isn't The End!...but** that the risen Lord is **still working in & through His people.**
3. Here is the continuing ministry of ***The Followers of Jesus Christ.***

V. Slide#10 **GO and PREACH (15,16)**

- A. (16) **What it doesn't say:** It doesn't say, "*he who does not get baptized will be condemned.*"
What it does say: *But he who does not believe will be condemned.*
1. **Belief** is always the common denominator in these verses.
 - a) **i.e.** repent & believe; confess w/mouth & believe w/heart; hear His Word & believe; see the Son & believe.
 2. **To Believe**...is to trust, to depend, to rely upon Christ Jesus.
 3. **To be Baptized**...is to submit to the ordinance which our Lord fulfilled in the Jordan; to which the 3000 converted ones submitted to at Pentecost; & to which the jailer yielded obedience the very night of his conversion.
 - a) Baptism is an outward sign that sets forth our death, burial, & resurrection w/Jesus...& is not to be neglected.
 - b) **Baptism doesn't confer salvation; it confirms it.**
 4. So, to **Go & Preach** *The Gospel Must Flow, Some Must Go & All Must Sow.*

B. Slide#11 [1] **THE GOSPEL MUST FLOW**

- C. The great questions **isn't**, *will the heathen be saved if we do not send them the gospel? but, Are we ourselves saved if we do not send them the gospel?*
1. You are a **missionary or** a **mission field yourself.** You are a **missionary or** an **impostor.**
 2. **Preach** = *to announce as a herald.* [it was used for **an ambassador** who had an announcement to make for the king]
 - a) **You & I have an announcement to make for our King.**
 - b) And **everyone** in the world has a right to hear it.
 3. **Slide#12 A staggering stat** - Percentage of Christian missionaries who go to countries w/a majority of the population professing Christianity is 99%.
 - a) **We need to penetrate the 10/40 window Why? Because its made up of 60% of the world's population** (3.6 bill people +) **90% are unreached. 85% are the poorest of the world's poor.**
 - b) Less than 1/2 of 1% of the mission budget of churches goes to reach the 10/40 Window.

D. Slide#13 [2] **SOME MUST GO**

- E. What a great life investment.
- F. **What is Missions anyways?**
1. Many would consider sharing with a neighbor **missionary work. Is it?**
 2. **A domestic church plant?** [some could be, most aren't]

3. So what is Missions? – *It is crossing a cultural barrier, to the un-churched, to present the gospel & make disciples & express the genuine love of Christ.*
- G. But what about the multitude right here in our own city who need Jesus? - Some ask why are you always going overseas? - It comes down to 2 words: Access & Need.
1. The **Need** is *everywhere*; but some *do not have any Access* to get it.
 2. Slide#14 Robertson McQuilkin, There is 1 full-time evangelical Christian worker for every **200** people in the US; 1 for every **200,000** in India; & 1 for every **2 million** in Algeria.
 - a) Half the world is out of reach of present gospel witness.
- H. Slide#15 [3] **ALL MUST SOW**
- I. **Go** – doesn't/can't mean *everyone*.
1. How do I know this? – Acts 13 they separated Paul/Barnabas for the work God had called them to...*not* all the elders...*not* the pastor...*not* the whole church of Antioch.
 - a) When they returned, did they rebuke them for *not going*?
 2. **Not** all are called to **be sent**, but all are called to **be apart** of the discipling of the nations [can you do that here...yes]
 3. **But I'm not a pastor** - In our day & age many places you can't go in & do a church plant or *be a pastor*. There are so many vocations where you can reach millions of lost. Teaching English, construction, computers, helping w/micro-finance, loans, providing jobs w/business overseas.
 - a) Slide#16 “To the **courageous & creative**, few doors are truly shut.”
- J. Slide#17 What can I do right now?
1. **Pray** earnestly each day for God's work of world evangelization.
 2. **Give** sacrificially for this cause.
 3. Consistently **share** your faith w/non-Christians.
 4. **Seek** to influence others to become global Christians.
 5. **Go** anywhere & **do** anything God desires.
 6. Become a **missionary** to those beyond the reach of the gospel.

VI. Slide#18 **Go and LOVE** CM's **MISSION & MOTTO**

- A. Slide#19 See/grab the new M&M V&V in pews. [same from 2008, just refreshed]
 1. Launch us into a series to go over **who we are** at CM.
- B. God *doesn't* give direction for our lives for our consideration. God gives direction assuming *participation, action, or obedience*.
- C. He *did not* share with us the Great Consideration, *nor* the Great Contemplation. He gave us The Great Commandment & The Great Commission.

- D. *God has a **world-sized** role for every Christian in His global purpose.* Perspectives
- E. **Slide#20 MISSION** - States our **Aim**; our fundamental purpose of why we exist; what we're supposed to be doing.
1. To love **God** completely - To love **people** authentically - To make **disciples** globally
 - a) To **unpack** this we'll into our **Motto**.
- F. **Slide#21 MOTTO** - The Motto takes our Mission & breaks it down to something that could be placed on a Tee-shirt. A simplified rule to live by.
1. To **live** the Great Commandment. Mrk 12:28-34
 2. To **fulfill** the Great Commission. Mt. 28:18-20
- G. **Slide#22 [1] TO LIVE THE GREAT COMMANDMENT** (read Mrk 12:29-31)
- H. *The first of all the commandments is: 'Hear, O Israel, the Lord our God, the Lord is one. And you shall love the Lord your God with all your heart, with all your soul, with all your mind, and with all your strength.' This is the first commandment. And the second, like it, is this: 'You shall love your neighbor as yourself.' There is no other commandment greater than these.*
- I. (28) **Which** (of what kind) **is the 1st** (most imp, foremost, 1st in rank) **commandment of all?**
1. The rabbis divided the **613 precepts** of the law (248 commands, 365 prohib) into **weighty/light**
 2. Since they knew no one could keep **all** of them, they broke them up into 2 categories: **Weighty/heavy** (more Imp. laws) & **Light** (less imp. laws)
 - a) The problem was if you broke 1, whether heavy & or light, you were **guilty before God**.
For whoever shall keep the whole law, & yet stumble in 1 point, he is guilty of all James 2:10
- J. **Jesus' reply was the Shema** (Deut.6:4,5) which every pious Pharisee repeated twice a day.
1. It 1st pointed to the **Unity of Deity**, **The Lord our God is one Lord**; and then to **man's chief obligation**, **to love Him with all our heart, soul, mind, & strength**. [w/all one's being]
 - a) Love God w/Everything [Heart, soul, mind, strength, possessions, service, our whole life, family, hobbies, time, money, relationships, tax returns, etc.]
 - (1) **To love Him** isn't to have **good feelings** about Him; **True love involves the will, as well as the heart**.
 - b) **Everything** devoted to loving God. *It does not take much of a man to be a believer, but it takes **all** there is of him.* Kent Hughes, pg.115
- K. **Jesus then added a 2nd one**, **You shall love your neighbor as yourself**.
1. Because love for God **can't** be **divorced** from love for one's neighbor; He puts Lev. 19:18 on the same level as the Shema.
 2. **Example**: Do you like **sourdough bread dipped in olive oil & balsamic vinegar?**
 - a) **Have you ever tried dipping in just one?** (God says the same)

- b) Don't try just dipping into just loving Me w/o loving my people; or just loving your fellow man w/o loving Me. (make sure that mix is rt)
- c) John said, *If someone says, "I love God," and hates his brother, he is a liar.* 1 Jn.4:20,21
3. **A total love for God & a sensitive love for others** is the **essence** of a life that **pleases** God - Love God Completely; Love people authentically.
- a) Now let's look at how/why we Make disciples globally.
- L. **Slide#23 [2] TO FULFILL THE GREAT COMMISSION** (Mt. 28:18-20)
- M. *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.*
- N. God has never changed – He's always been *the Global God, the Missionary God*.
1. And has always desired **the nations**.
- O. **Slide#24 How it all ends:** Rev.5:9,10 *You are worthy to take the scroll, & to open its seals; For You were slain, & have redeemed us to God by Your blood Out of every tribe & tongue & people & nation, And have made us kings and priests to our God; & we shall reign on the earth.*
1. **Worship song; Gospel song; Missionary song; Priestly song; Prophetic song.**
- P. Throughout the bible, God displays His election towards **Israel**, W/His eye on **the Nations**.
- Q. **Wrap Up:**
1. **To live the Great Commandment - To fulfill the Great Commission**
- a) If you are a *follower of JC* it is **not** to **GET** the word out, but to simply **LET** the Word out.
2. **Love God** w/everything. He isn't looking for a part of you, He wants **all** of you.
3. **Be real** with people, **no one** likes syrupy christians.
4. **Disciple** w/your lives, *here, there, & everywhere you go.*
- R. **Slide#25a Story:** Fritz Kreisler the world-famous violinist, earned a fortune with his concerts and compositions, but he **generously** gave most of it away. So, when he discovered an exquisite violin on one of his trips, he wasn't able to buy it. Later, having raised enough money to meet the asking price, he returned to the seller, hoping to purchase that beautiful instrument. But to his great dismay **it had been sold to a collector**.
1. Kreisler made his way to the new owner's home and offered to buy the violin. The collector said it had become his prized possession and he **would not sell it**. Keenly disappointed, Kreisler was about to leave when he had an idea. **"Could I play the instrument once more before it is consigned to silence?"** he asked.
2. Permission was granted, and the great virtuoso filled the room with such heart-moving music that the collector's emotions were deeply stirred. **"I have no right to Slide#25b keep that to myself,"** he exclaimed. **"It's yours, Mr. Kreisler. Take it into**

the world, and let people hear it.” *Thats our commission!*

S. **Prayer:**

Lord, I have **heart** trouble [I'm **preoccupied** w/my own interests & have no room for **compassion** 4 others]

I have **eye** trouble [I don't **see** the world w/Your eyes]

I have **head** trouble [I'm waiting till everything makes **perfect sense** in my mind]

I have **knee** trouble [I **play** at prayer]

I have **ear** trouble [Lord you call, **but** often...I **don't listen**]