

Go No Matter the Cost**Shaun Castro**

But the Lord said to him, "Go, for he is a chosen instrument of mine to carry my name before the Gentiles and kings and the children of Israel. For I will show him how much he must suffer for the sake of my name." Acts 9:15-16 ESV

And now, behold, I am going to Jerusalem, constrained by the Spirit, not knowing what will happen to me there, except that the Holy Spirit testifies to me in every city that imprisonment and afflictions await me. But I do not account my life of any value nor as precious to myself, if only I may finish my course and the ministry that I received from the Lord Jesus, to testify to the gospel of the grace of God. Acts 20:22-24 ESV

- When our hearts are in tune to the Lord, we're able to hear his voice calling us to minister to someone.
- When God calls us to minister to someone, we need to be assured that He's already at work in that person's heart. So GO for it!

God has a purpose for us to reach specific people far from him. (Acts 9:15-16 ESV)

Like Jesus, prioritize the needs and interests of others above your own.

Do nothing from selfish ambition or conceit, but in humility count others more significant than yourselves. Let each of you look not only to his own interests, but also to the interests of others. Have this mind among yourselves, which is yours in Christ Jesus, who, though he was in the form of God, did not count equality with God a thing to be grasped, but emptied himself, by taking the form of a servant, being born in the likeness of men. And being found in human form, he humbled himself by becoming obedient to the point of death, even death on a cross. Philippians 2:3-8 ESV

Out of love for Jesus and others, sacrifice your personal preferences so that you do not become a stumbling block to those who are coming to faith.

So then each of us will give an account of himself to God. Therefore let us not pass judgment on one another any longer, but rather decide never to put a stumbling block or hindrance in the way of a brother. Romans 14:12-13 ESV

Sacrifice through my actions.

- Money
- Treasure
- Time
- Careless words (Matthew 12:36)

Let's Talk About It

We all want to live a life of meaning and purpose. When we put our faith in Jesus, he welcomes us into an amazing journey of living a life beyond ourselves and experiencing the fulfilling joy of helping others find hope and healing in Him. Paul encountered the resurrected Jesus and he was radically changed and lived on mission. As Jesus leads us to reach specific people for Him, we are called to be selfless and prioritize the needs and interests of others above our own. Out of love for Jesus and others, let's sacrifice our personal preferences so that we do not become a stumbling block to those who are coming to faith.

Acts 9:15-16; Acts 20:22-24; Philippians 2:3-8; Romans 14:12-13; Matthew 12:36

Discussion questions:

- Which part of the message impacted or challenged you?
- When God calls us to minister to someone, we need to be assured that He's already at work in that person's heart. How does knowing this truth encourage and motivate you to reach out to others?
- Read Philippians 2:3-8. Does counting others more significant than yourself and taking interest in others come naturally to you? By putting this into practice, how might this help build stronger relationships in your life?
- Read Romans 14:12-13. Out of your love for Jesus and others, are there any personal preferences that God is speaking to you to sacrifice so that you do not become a stumbling block to those who are coming to faith? If so, what are they?
- Read Matthew 12:36. Are there any careless words you need to sacrifice for the benefit of others? By choosing to repent of saying these words, how might it help those who listen?

Take a Step

Take time this week to ask God: "Lord, are there any personal preferences that You want me to sacrifice so that I do not become a stumbling block to those who are coming to faith?" Allow the time and space to be quiet before the Lord to let Him speak. After hearing from God, ask Him to give you the strength to offer that as an act of worship and let it go from your life and live differently to honor Him.

Here's My Prayer

Lord, thank You for the people that You've placed in my life. May You highlight the ones You want me to spend time with to help them get to know You. May You lead me and guide me every step of the way. May You bring salvation, peace, and healing to them. In Jesus name. Amen.