

Steps of a Disciple, part 10

Go and Tell! Part 1—Moving Away From Comfort

Matthew 28:19-20; Matthew 5:13; Philippians 2:5-8; John 4:3-10

#1 - Obeying Requires Moving, Matthew 28:19-20

For the disciple to engage in this vital step of discipleship, it requires movement on the disciple's part. I can't overemphasize this. It is not the lost moving to God; it is not the lost moving to the saved; it is not the lost moving to the church. It is the disciple of Jesus Christ moving to the lost. Jesus said, "Go therefore...."

To do this means the disciple of Jesus Christ must move away from comfort. We must get out of our comfort zone—out of our holy huddles and connect with the lost.

#2 - Obedience Requires Servanthood, Philippians 2:5-8

Jesus modeled this moving out of the comfort zone by taking on the role of a servant. Let's look at Philippians 2:5-8:

For us to apply this step of discipleship, to be obedient to Jesus—we must emulate His example and take on the role of a servant. Paul tells us that we are to have the same attitude as Christ had. Christ is described in this passage as being willing to humble Himself, even though He was the Creator God, enthroned in Heaven, to take on the role of a bond-servant and be sacrificed on the cross for our redemption.

Go and Tell requires servanthood.

#3 - Obedience Requires Power/Potency And Proximity, Matthew 5:13

Jesus compares His followers with salt in this world. There are two things that make salt effective: Potency and Proximity. Jesus directly addresses the idea of Potency when He says, salt that has lost its savor—it's saltiness—it's taste, is useless. Our effectiveness in this world requires our being potent, or we must have power in our work for God. Without it, we are ineffective. We must ask God the Holy Spirit to lead us and empower us as we Go and Tell.

Not only must salt be salty (potent), it must also be proximate. It must be near. A salt shaker left in the cabinet will not do its job in enhancing flavor in someone's food. Jesus says we—you and me, are His salt in this world. Again, I must be willing to have God move me out from my holy huddle, out from my comfort zone if I am going to be effective for Him. I cannot share the gospel message if I don't come into direct contact with the lost.