

Reach: Go For Jesus!

Intro

Our theme this year is GO FIRST! Last year we learned how to REACH the lost, the broken and the hurting. This year we will build upon that foundation to become people of great faith and boldness. In order to learn how to GO FIRST we must first study the greatest One of them all: Jesus Christ.

KEY THEME VERSE: **Matthew 28:19**, *“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...”*

We need to follow His footsteps and GO FIRST!

1. Where Are you Focused?

In order to GO FIRST we need to be focused. This focus comes from understanding the truth of Christ and the power of the Cross. Proverbs 29:18 says, “Where *there is* no revelation, the people cast off restraint...” It is time to receive a revelation of Jesus our Saviour so we may know where to GO and what to DO!

There were many things Paul could have focused on as he went FIRST as an Evangelist and the Apostle of God. But Paul says that his focus was on teaching Jesus Christ and His Crucifixion.

1 Corinthians 2:2, *“For I determined not to know anything among you except Jesus Christ and Him crucified.”*

1 Corinthians 14:3-4, *“For I delivered to you first of all that which I also received: that Christ died for our sins according to the Scriptures, **4** and that He was buried, and that He rose again the third day according to the Scriptures...”*

It's so easy to get distracted by all sorts of things. They may even be good things but they are not God things. Let us never forget that Christ is our focus and our goal!

Point to Ponder:

- What are you determined to know about Jesus?
 - Many want various gifts from Jesus.
 - Such as prosperity, healing, jobs, peace, vision, restoration in families, healing, and more.
 - All these gifts are good. He does bestow great gifts on His children but that is not the reason why He came.
 - Many want to live in heaven.
 - But Heaven is not why Jesus died for us.
 - He died so that we could be free from sin and spend eternity in Heaven **WITH HIM.**
 - He wanted **restoration of relationship with us as sin could no longer separate us.**
 - That is the most important thing to Him.

Jesus died so that our sins could be forgiven and we could be restored to relationship with Him for all eternity as children of God.

2. We need to seek to know Him

*Phillipians 3:10, "...that I may know Him and the power of His resurrection, and the fellowship of His sufferings, being conformed to His death, **11** if, by any means, I may attain the resurrection from the dead."*

- As Christians we need to:
 - Seek to Know Him
 - Seek to Understand the power of His resurrection
 - Understand that you need to die to yourself.
 - So that you may experience the "resurrection from the dead."
(Salvation brings eternity with Him in Heaven).

3. We are alive in Christ

Through the Cross we have been made alive!

*Ephesians 2: 1-6, "And you He made alive, who were dead in trespasses and sins, **2** in which you once walked according to the course of this world, according to the prince of the power of the air, the spirit who now works in the sons of disobedience, **3** among*

whom also we all once conducted ourselves in the lusts of our flesh, fulfilling the desires of the flesh and of the mind, and were by nature children of wrath, just as the others.

4 But God, who is rich in mercy, because of His great love with which He loved us, 5 even when we were dead in trespasses, made us alive together with Christ (by grace you have been saved), 6 and raised us up together, and made us sit together in the heavenly places in Christ Jesus... ”

- Vs 1: We were dead before but now we are alive.
 - There is an old way that we used to think and act but now we need to think and act differently.
 - How can you show that you are alive in Christ?

It is time to receive a revelation of Jesus as your Lord and Saviour so that you may. *“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...”* **Matthew 28:19.**

Prayer

- Pray for all to seek to know Him.
- Pray they would seek to understand the power of His resurrection.
- Pray for revelation of areas that they need to surrender to God (Die to yourself).
- Pray for a revelation of the resurrection power of Jesus.
- Pray for the upcoming Reach Day, and Life Connect Bread of Life or Prayer Walk.

Action

- On Saturday 15 April we will have our Reach Day: Street Evangelism in all our campuses.