

*Journey #5*  
**Go! Go! Go!**  
**Sharing Your Faith With Others**

Contemporary gospel music artist Lisa McClendon encourages believers to be pro-active about sharing God with the world around us in her jazzy piece, “Go.” A sample of the lyrics show the passion behind the need for believers to share the truth of Jesus’ light with those living in a dark and unloving world: “You can fear man if you want to, or fear death, but I’m not gonna let someone else fool me from being all God wants me to be. I ain’t got time to be dyin’ when their souls long to be found. Why should I hesitate to share with you my fate?” (Lisa McClendon, “Go” from the album Soul Music.).

Many of us encounter fear and anxiety when it comes to sharing our faith. Often times we want to, but we are afraid of offending others, not knowing what to say or are fearful of being rejected. We ask ourselves, “What difference would it make anyway?” However, if we shared the same compassion that Jesus has for those who don’t know Him, our response would be different. We don’t realize how God can use us to make an eternal difference in the lives of others.

**The 411:** *In this study, you will discover God’s heart for those who don’t know Him and what the Bible tells us about how we can conquer our fears and begin to share our faith.*

### **Following Jesus’ Command**

*“Go to the people of all nations and make them My disciples. Baptize them in the name of the Father, the Son and the Holy Spirit.” —Matthew 28:19*

Matthew 28:18-20 is a passage known as the Great Commission. In it, Jesus gives believers the command to make disciples of all the nations by going and taking the initiative to share the gospel with everyone

**Truth: Matthew 28:18-20**

Why do you think Jesus promises His presence to His followers wherever they go?

Why is it important that you obey the Great Commission?

How does understanding evangelism as a part of making disciples affect your perception of your role in the Great Commission?

Without the salvation Jesus offers, people are living in a state of spiritual death. If you had the cure for cancer, you wouldn’t hesitate to let the world know. As Christians, we have the cure for man’s spiritual condition. Jesus reflected this concern for those who don’t know Him and haven’t received His gift of salvation. As His followers, we too should be concerned and respond with His gospel by letting all who will hear know how they can have a personal relationship with Him.

### **God’s Incredible Heart**

*“When He saw the crowds, He felt sorry for them. They were confused and helpless, like sheep without a shepherd.”  
—Matthew 9:36*

God’s desire is for everyone to know Him. Look at the verses below and reflect on what they tell you about the Lord.

**Truth: Matthew 9:35-36**

What is Jesus’ response to the needs of people in the world?

What was He doing when He observed the people’s condition?

**Truth: Luke 19:10**

What did Jesus see as the solution to the problem of lost and hurting people?

How should this influence our attitude toward lost and hurting people?

## The Power To “Go”

We all experience fear and anxiety when we think about sharing our faith, and that is why it is essential to know the role of the Holy Spirit. He is the One who comforts us and enables us to overcome our fears about sharing our faith. Jesus explained to His disciples that the Holy Spirit would empower them to be witnesses for Him.

Being filled with the Holy Spirit was so vital to the mission, Jesus told His disciples to delay telling people about Him until after they were filled with the Spirit (Luke 24:49). The promise of the Comforter was realized by the disciples in Acts 2, and as a result of His coming, the disciples had an incredibly fruitful witness (Acts 2:41-42).

### Truth: Acts 1:8

Where does your ability to witness for Christ come from?

### Truth: Acts 8:26-40

Why is the Holy Spirit so important in the believer’s life when sharing Jesus Christ with others? What insight do you gain from Philip’s witnessing experience?

*“The Spirit told Philip to catch up with the chariot. Philip ran up close and heard the man reading aloud from the book of Isaiah...”* —Acts 8:29-30

The Holy Spirit gives us the power to conquer our fears and effectively talk about Jesus Christ with others. He is the One who leads people to faith in Jesus and draws people into a relationship with God. **Remember: Effective witnessing is simply sharing Christ in the power of the Holy Spirit and leaving the results to God!**

What fears prevent you from sharing your faith with others? Do you expect to see results when you share your faith?

*“No one can come to Me, unless the Father who sent Me makes them want to come.”* —John 6:44

Our responsibility is to step out in faith. God is responsible for the results! It is not our articulate presentation, but God’s Spirit that will draw people to Him.

### Our Part In The Process:

- Ephesians 2:1-3  
What is the spiritual condition of people without Jesus Christ?
- Mark 16:15  
What are we as believers commanded to do?
- 1 Corinthians 15:1-4  
What do you need to communicate in order for people to hear the truth about Jesus and have the opportunity to receive God’s love and forgiveness? If someone hadn’t taken the time to share the gospel with you, where would you be and what would you be doing?

## The Application

- Read through *The Passage* booklet until you become familiar with its content. Ask a friend in this group if you can read through the booklet with them and then ask them how you did.
- Pray and ask God to give you the opportunity to share *The Passage* with three friends, classmates, or people who live in your dorm or apartment complex who don’t know Jesus in a personal way. Be ready to share with them and trust God with the results.