



Dig Deeper @Home – “Go!”

Complement to sermon on August 7, 2016 – “Go”

MEMORIZE – Matthew 28:19-20

Go therefore and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, teaching them to observe all that I have commanded you. And behold, I am with you always, to the end of the age.”

READ Genesis 12:1-9

Questions to ponder/discuss:

1. What is this passage revealing about God and what is it revealing about us as humans?
2. If the above is true, what needs to change in your life? What will that look like?
3. What impresses you most about God’s call to Abram and his willingness to follow God’s call?
4. Read on in Genesis 12:10-20
 - a. What more do these verses reveal about Abram? What do you think caused Abram to act in this way?
 - b. How do you see God working in spite of Abram’s dishonesty? What does this tell us about God’s character and love for Abram and Sarai?
5. Read Matthew 8:5-13
 - a. What is it about the Centurion (a Roman military officer with 100 men under his command) that causes Jesus to be amazed?
 - b. How would you describe the faith of the Centurion?
 - c. What does Jesus say about this man’s faith? (vs 10)
 - d. Jesus tells the man to “Go”. What does he tell him was the result of his faith? (vs 13)

Bottom Line - Read Matthew 8:5-13 again and give a one or two sentence summary of the scripture:

Experiential

Sometimes activities help us to understand and process biblical truths. The ones below are suggestions for how to experience the truths of Genesis 12/Matthew 8. Feel free to use one of these or any you might come up with.

Red Light, Green Light

Have everyone line up about 15 feet away from the person who will be calling out “Red Light!” “Green Light!” The caller faces away from the line of players and says “Green Light!” Everyone walks forward until the caller turns and says “Red Light!” and turns around quickly. If one or more persons keep moving and are caught by the caller, they are out. The players start moving again when the caller turns back around and says “Green Light!” The caller wins if all the players are out before anyone is able to touch him/her. Otherwise, the first player to touch the caller wins the game and earns the right to be the caller for the next game. Make sure the players understand that no running is allowed. Discuss: How is the “green light” like God’s invitation to follow Jesus? What about the “red light”? What can stop us from following God’s invitation to Go?

Listening for God’s Call

Go outside and sit or stand quietly with your eyes closed for about three minutes. Listen for how many different sounds you can hear outside during that time. After the three minutes are up, talk about or write down what sounds you heard. Next, sit quietly again for approximately 3 minutes and this time ask God to speak to you and listen for any person or idea or thought that comes to your mind. After the time is up, talk about what you heard in your mind and heart. Take time to Pray for those persons or thoughts and how God might be prompting you to Go in some specific way.

SING (a suggested song to sing. Use this or any song you might want to sing)

Forth in Thy Name, O Lord, I go – Mennonite Hymnal #430

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=lt_pGuGGzno

Even if you do not know the tune, read the words of this classic hymn by Charles Wesley

Send me out - <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=L8ZGQPW7OXq> This song is an invitation to make a commitment to go and to be Jesus’ hands and feet as we go.

PRAY

This is a time to gather around for prayer requests and to share how you have seen God at work. A time to hear where God is showing up in our lives and where we need Him to help us in our lives.

Sending prayer based on the lesson: Lord, even as you called Abram to go, so you call us now to go and to leave behind our primary loyalties in order to follow you. We respond to your call, sometimes with faith, sometimes with hesitation. We are afraid, Lord, to abandon the things that are familiar and to go to the place and people you will show us today. Help us to want to love you more and to follow your call. Thank you for sending us out to the world to make you known. In Jesus name, we pray, Amen