

GOD HAS MADE YOU HIS ABLE MINISTER OF THE GOSPEL

2Cor 3:6

[Moerewa CF - 7/6/98 - EKB]

1. Why did Jesus visit planet earth? Why did God send His Son?
[He is: the Word of God, the Lamb of God, the King of Kings, the Divine Son of God.]
Lk 19:10 Jesus said, "The Son of Man is come to seek and save the lost."
Jn 3:16, 3:17, 10:10, 1Jn 4:9,10, 1Tim 1:15, 2:4,6, 2Pet 3:9.
2. Jesus' Mission to earth was to **DECLARE** and **PROVIDE** a way of salvation for all men, women, boys, girls who are eternally lost, and to bring them back into **RELATIONSHIP** with God as their **FATHER, SAVIOUR, LORD AND BEST FRIEND**.
"DECLARE": In each chapter of John's Gospel, for example, Jesus is revealed, and teaches, that He is God's way of Life, Truth and Salvation.
"PROVIDE": By His suffering for us, by His death on the Cross, and by His resurrection from the dead, Jesus has provided full salvation from eternal death, for all who believe in Him, and receive Him as their Lord and Saviour. *Jn 1:12, Jn 3:16.*
3. After Jesus' death and resurrection where **He PROVIDED** the way of salvation for us, and before He ascended back to the Father, *Ac 1:9-11*, He passed on this ministry of **DECLARING** the way of salvation to **his disciples** and the **Holy Spirit**. *Mk 16:15-18, Mat 28:18-20, Ac 1:8, Lk 24:45-49.*
4. But He said, "Don't start doing this until the Holy Spirit comes and falls on you in power, then go and tell everybody. So they waited 10 days, 120 of them, *Ac 1:15*, and then it happened, *Ac 2:1-4, 5:11, etc.*
5. The Holy Spirit came in power on each one, men and women, and they hit the streets, spread out among the people, speaking to all, the wonderful works of God. Devout, God-fearing people, were gathered in Jerusalem for the Feast of Pentecost "from every nation under heaven," *Ac 2:5*, and they all heard the good news of the Gospel in their own language. **EVERY DISCIPLE OF JESUS HAD BECOME THE LORD'S ABLE MINISTER OF THE GOSPEL.** *2Cor 3:6.*
6. Peter also preached *Ac 2:14-40*. 3000 were saved and baptized, *v41*, and gained a wonderful relationship with God their Father. They also spread out everywhere to tell others the good news, *Ac 2: 47.*
7. *Acts 3&4* are about Peter and John. *Acts 5* is about a couple who lied to the Holy Spirit, and tells us more about Peter and John. *Acts 6* describes the appointment of 7 men to oversee the care of widows. *Acts 7* is about Stephen and his death but *Ac 8:1-4* mentions the scattering of the believers from Jerusalem, as a result of persecution, and tells us that they "went everywhere preaching the Word."

This theme is picked up again in *Ac 11:19-24*, and explains that the scattered believers went out as far as Antioch, preaching to Jews, *v19*, and to Greek gentiles, *v20*, "and a great number believed and turned to the Lord." The church in Antioch was founded through every believer being on fire as a witness for Jesus and it became the centre of Christian outreach and worldwide expansion.
8. This same Holy Spirit that fired up and empowered those disciples in Acts, is in us, and upon us, to spread the Gospel of Jesus as they did.

PRACTICAL

1. Believe and thank God, by His Word, that you are **NOW** His able, fired up, anointed messenger, to share His good news.
Ac 1:8, Mat 4:19, Lk 5:10, 2Cor 3:6, Is 44:8, 2Tim 1:7, Ac 4:13, Ac 4:20,29-31, Ac 18:9,10, 2Cor 5:18, Phile 6, 2Tim 4:5.
2. Pray for some unsaved friends each day. Pray that Jesus will send believers to speak to them the 5 things of *Acts 26:18* - to open their eyes, to turn them from darkness to light, from the power of Satan to God so that they might receive forgiveness of sins and an inheritance of full salvation.
3. Pray for yourself for **Jesus' love and compassion** for the lost, *2Cor 5:14, Mat 9:35-38*; for **opportunities** to share, for **His boldness to speak**, *Mat 10:20, Pro 28:1, Pro 14:26, Pro 3:26, 1Thes 2:2, Ac 4:13,20*, and for **words to speak**, *Mat 10:20*.
4. **Refuse**: all striving to do it! All legal duty and guilt! All fear and nervousness, *Ac 18:9,10, Is 44:8, Lk 5:10, 2Tim 1:7, 1Jn 4:18, 2Cor 5:14*.
5. **Remember**: That it is Jesus living in you, *Gal 2:20, Col 1:27*, and it is Jesus who is doing it. **Relax**, and allow Him to live in you, and share freely. Have faith and believe that the Lord is living in you, His life, and that He is speaking through you, *Mat 10:20*. He makes the opportunities, and it happens naturally. Wait for opportunities, be friendly. When the Holy Spirit prompts you, speak simply and clearly. Steer the conversation to speak about Christ and Him crucified, and risen again, *1Cor 2:2*, and why this was necessary, to pay for our sins.
6. Carry tracts to give to those interested.
Keep full of the Holy Spirit, *Eph 5:18,19*.
Move with the **"compassion"** and love of Jesus, *2Cor 5:14*. Relax and laugh.
Rejoice in Him.
Believe His life is in and through you always.
It is His work, and He will do it through you.
Just let Him!