

### By Charles Willis



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Unless Your Righteousness Surpass That Of The Scribes And Pharisees

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GO!		GO!
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# Go Into All The World

- THE O.		
MAIN REFERENCE "Go therefore and	1.	"Go" indicates action is needed. What should be our attitude in spreading the gospel? What often is our attitude?
make disciples of all the nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and the Son and the Holy Spirit, teaching them to observe all that I commanded you" (Matthew 28:19–20).	2.	What action is required in the language "make disciples"?
	3.	How does one become a disciple of Jesus?
APPLICATION Why do so many Christians fail to see the need to go and make disciples?	4.	Why is baptism in the name of the Father, Son, and Holy Spirit if all authority has been given to Jesus?
	5.	What active effort is involved in "teaching them to observe"?
What can we do as individuals to change our own attitudes and help our brethren change their attitudes about going and	6.	Considering Jesus' similar command in the limited commission (Matthew 10:5–15), discuss the difficulties of the teacher who faces rejection of the truth, and failure of others to apply.
making disciples?	7.	What should be our motivation to go and make disciples?

Lesson 1

GO! Go And Do The Same MAIN REFERENCE 1. Who is my neighbor (Luke 10:29)? "Which of these three 2. What prejudice existed in the mind of: do you think proved A. The lawyer (Luke 10:29) to be a neighbor to the man who fell into the robbers' hands? And he said, The one who B. The priest (Luke 10:31) showed mercy toward him. Then Jesus said to him, Go and C. The Levite (Luke 10:32) do the same" (Luke 10:36-37). 3. What prejudices do we face in order to be more like the good Samaritan? **APPLICATION** What is the difference 4. What is "the same" that we are supposed to show (Luke 10:36-37)? in mercy and what our society demands as 5. What does Scripture say about the merciful (full of mercy)? "tolerance"? A. Matthew 5:7 B. Romans 12:8 6. What does Scripture say about the unmerciful? A. James 2:13 When is it hardest for us B. Matthew 18:23-35 to merciful? Why? 7. How can we behave like the Scribes and Pharisees (Matthew 23:23)? 8. Read Matthew 9:12-13 and determine: what are we to learn? (defining "compassion" will be helpful) 9. Gather a few passages that demonstrate the mercy of God who we are to immitate. Specifically, how God's mercy is "shown" in action.

Lesson 2



## **Go And Show Him His Fault In Private**

### MAIN REFERENCE

"If your brother sins, go and show him his fault in private: if he listens to you, you have won your brother. But if he does not listen to you, take one or two more with you, so that by the mouth of two or three witnesses every fact may be confirmed. If he refuses to listen to them, tell it to the church: and if he refuses to listen even to the church, let him be to you as a Gentile and a tax collector." (Matthew 18:15-17).

### APPLICATION

What should be the proper disposition of one going and showing his fault (2 Timothy 2:24–26)?

What should be the proper attitude of one receiving such admonition?

- 1. What responsibility do we have toward a brother who sins, which we know about?
- 2. How are we to "show him his fault"? What is involved?
- 3. What does it mean "if he refuses to listen to the church"? What is the individual's responsibility as part of "the church"?
- 4. What is our motivation for obeying this command? (Consider also James 5:19–20)
- 5. Why do so many Christians take a passive role in this rather than the active role which is commanded?
- 6. How does the text of this lesson relate to the greater context of Matthew 18:10–22? What lessons can we learn?
- 7. How is Matthew 5:23–24 similar, yet different than our text? What is Jesus' command?

The	Lesson 4
Go An	d Sell And Give To The Poor
MAIN REFERENCE "If you wish to be complete, go and sell	1. From the context (Matthew 19:16–30), describe the man to whom this phrase is said. Why was he told this?
your possessions and give to the poor, and you will have treasure in heaven; and come, follow Me." (Matthew 19:21).	2. What was this man still lacking (vs.20–21)?
	3. What is conveyed by the young man's "grieving" (v.22)?
APPLICATION Why is it hard for a rich man to enter the	4. What statement of Jesus caused the disciples to be astonished (v.24–25)?
kingdom of God? (Consider 1 Timothy 6:9–10, 17–19)	5. What was Jesus referring to in verse 26? What is impossible with people?
	6. How did the disciples differ from rich young man (v.27)?
Discuss how what we should learn from this account about giving to the poor. Are we passive or active in obeying these things?	7. What does Jesus mean by "follow Me" (v.21, 28)?
	<ol> <li>What does Jesus indicate we will have to be willing to leave to follow Him (v.29)? Compare this with verse 12.</li> </ol>

### Go, From Now On \$in No More

### MAIN REFERENCE

" Straightening up, Jesus said to her, "Woman, where are they? Did no one condemn you?" She said, "No one, Lord." And Jesus said, "I do not condemn you, either. Go. From now on sin no more" (John 8:10–11).

### **APPLICATION**

Discuss problems with viewing yourself as a moral "watch-dog" like the Pharisees saw themselves.

Be prepared to discuss whether obedience is passive or active.

- 1. Why did Jesus not condemn this woman when the Law condemned her (John 8:5)?
- 2. What lesson(s) did Jesus teach the scribes and the Pharisees, and us?

- 3. Discuss the woman in this situation and her possible reaction to being told "from now on sin no more."
- Jesus commands the woman to make a change in her life to obedience. How do the following passages teach the same need for change in our lives. A. 1 Corinthians 15:34
  - B. 2 Timothy 1:9; 1 Peter 1:16
  - C. Romans 6:12
  - D. Ephesians 4:22-24
  - E. Acts 17:30
- 5. Discuss the tone of Jesus toward the guilty woman. How would this tone help us in teaching others who are in sin?

Lesson 6



## **Go And Bear Fruit**

### MAIN REFERENCE

"You are My friends if you do what I command you. No longer do I call you slaves, for the slave does not know what his master is doing; but I have called you friends, for all things that I have heard from My Father I have made known to you. You did not choose Me but I chose you, and appointed you that you would go and bear fruit, and that your fruit would remain, so that whatever you ask of the Father in My name He may give to you." (John 15:14–16).

### APPLICATION

If the active Christian is the one who bears fruit, discuss how God views the passive Christian (in light of the passages in this lesson).

- 1. What was the "fruit" in this context?
- 2. How can we bear fruit (John 15:4-5)?
- 3. Why does God "prune" some (John 15:2)? What is this describing?
- 4. How do we prove we are disciples (John 15:8)?
- 5. Discuss how being active in our service to God enables us to bear much fruit.
- 6. How is this truth of "bearing fruit" seen in the following passages: A. Matthew 7:16
  - B. Matthew 3:8
  - C. Romans 7:4
  - D. Colossians 1:10
  - E. Matthew 13:23
  - F. Galatians 5:22-23

Lesson 7



## **Go Home...And Report**

### MAIN REFERENCE

"As He was getting into the boat, the man who had been demonpossessed was imploring Him that he might accompany Him. And He did not let him, but He said to him, "Go home to your people and report to them what great things the Lord has done for you, and how He had mercy on you." And he went away and began to proclaim in Decapolis what great things Jesus had done for him: and everyone was amazed" (Mark 5:18-20).

### **APPLICATION**

Why do so many struggle in this area to move from passive to active?

List ideas to help us learn to be more active in speaking of our faith. A second similar example is found in Matthew 11:3–5 which says "Are You the Expected One, or shall we look for someone else?" Jesus answered and said to them, "<u>Go and report</u> to John what you hear and see: the blind receive sight and the lame walk, the lepers are cleansed and the deaf hear, the dead are raised up, and the poor have the gospel preached to them."

- 1. What did these men report?
- 2. To whom did they report, and to whom should we be reporting?
- 3. What should we be reporting about? (make a list)
- Identify how the following passages teach that we should go and report.
   A. Hebrews 5:12
  - B. Matthew 28:18-20
  - C. 1 Peter 3:15
  - D. 2 Timothy 2:2
  - E. Matthew 10:32
  - F. Acts 8:4
- 5. How are we to especially make application in our homes? A. Deuteronomy 6:1-9
  - B. Proverbs 22:6
  - C. Ephesians 6:4
  - D. 2 Timothy 1:5

Lesson 8



## **Go With Him Two Mile**

#### MAIN REFERENCE

"You have heard that it was said, 'An eye for an eye, and a tooth for a tooth.' But I say to you, do not resist an evil person; but whoever slaps you on your right cheek, turn the other to him also. If anyone wants to sue you and take your shirt, let him have your coat also. Whoever forces you to go one mile, go with him two" (Matthew 5:38-41).

#### APPLICATION

What part does love play in having an attitude that would obey these instructions?

How do some "passively" attempt to obey such commands?

What can we do to become more "active" in obedience to thse things?

- 1. Explain the basic principles behind the Old Testament law of "an eye for an eye" (Ex. 21:22-24; Lev. 24:19-20; Deut. 19:15-21).
- 2. Looking at the greater context of Matthew 5:38-42 explain what lesson we are to learn.
- 3. Understanding vengence belongs to the Lord (Romans 12:19), why the instructions to do more than was asked?
- 4. How do the following passages indicate Christians are to do more than expected?

A. Matthew 5:43-48; Romans 12:20

B. Matthew 7:12

C. Matthew 25:31-46

D. 2 Corinthians 8:3

E. Hebrews 12:4

F. 1 Thessalonians 5:15

5. Many would view going the first mile as an active faith. How does the second mile truly move us from passive to active?



## **Go Into Your Inner Room**

### MAIN REFERENCE

"When you pray, go into your inner room, close your door and pray to your Father who is in secret, and your Father who sees what is done in secret will reward you." (Matthew 6:6).

### **APPLICATION**

How well do we fulfill this instruction to "go into your inner room... and pray"? Are we in fact passive or active in our obedient faith?

Discuss what we should be praying about in private.

- 1. What is the contextual concern about public prayer? Do we still struggle with this?
- 2. How is the Father "in secret"?
- 3. What is the benefit of private prayer?
- 4. Make a list of attributes that are necessary to obey this command.
- 5. In your life, is the emphasis on public prayer or private prayer? Do you see one as more important than the other? Is one more meaningful than the other?
- 6. From Matthew 6:7–8, what are the "meaningless repetitions" of the Gentiles which we are not to be like? How does this correlate with Luke 11:5–13, and Luke 18:1–8?
- 7. Examine the following references and indicate if prayer (in each context) is to be public, private, or both.

A. Matthew 5:44	H. Acts 8:22
B. Matthew 14:23	I. Acts 9:11
C. Matthew 19:13	J. Acts 9:40
D. Matthew 26:36–39	K. Philippians 4:6
E. Acts 2:42	L. Colossians 4:12
F. Acts 4:31	M. James 5:14
G. Acts 6:4	N. James 5:17–18

- 8. Where does Scripture teach we are to pray in our public worship assemblies?
- 9. Why do our public prayers (at times) become so formal, when our private prayers do not? If you are able, be ready to speak of the emotional nature of private prayers.



# **Everyone Who Hears And Acts**

MAIN REFERENCE	1.	Explain (from the context) "acts on them."
"Therefore everyone who hears these words of Mine and acts on them, may be compared to a wise man who built his house on the rock" (Matthew 7:24).	2.	From Matthew 5–7 (the Sermon on the Mount) cite a few examples of how some fail to act on these words of Jesus. Include Christians in your consideration.
	3.	How did the following act on the word? A. Matthew 13:44–46
APPLICATION		B. Acts 22:12–16 (also Acts 9)
Compare the mindsets of a passive and active faith. What causes us to shift to active?		C. Hebrews 11:1–40 (select two or three examples from this chapter)
		D. James 2:24
	4.	What is the call to action in the following passages? A. Matthew 10:32–33
		B. Revelation 2:4–5
		C. John 13:12–17
		D. James 1:22–24
		E. 1 Peter 3:15

Go!) Unless	Your Righteousness Surpass
That C	of The Scribes And Pharisees
MAIN REFERENCE "For I say to you that unless your righteousness surpasses that of the scribes and Pharisees, you will not enter the kingdom of heaven" (Matthew 5:20).	<ol> <li>What aspect of "righteouness" did Jesus refer to in this context? Consider the remainder of the sermon on the mount (Matthew 5–7).</li> <li>What does Jesus condemn about the righteousness of the scribes and Pharisees?</li> <li>A. Matthew 23:1–33</li> </ol>
	B. Mark 7:1–13
APPLICATION	3. Give two or three modern examples of this Pharisaical mindset.
How might a Pharisaichal mindeset lead to passive faith?	<ul><li>4. What is the standard of our righteousness?</li><li>A. Romans 8:29</li></ul>
	B. 2 Corinthians 3:18
	C. Colossians 3:10
Discuss how James 1:22–27 describes	D. Matthew 10:25
the "passive faith" mindset, and what the	E. Ephesians 4:15
instruction is that causes us to become "active."	F. 1 John 2:6
	G. 1 Peter 2:21–23