

## Power of Go

**Matthew 28:18-20** And Jesus came and spoke to them, saying, “All authority has been given to Me in heaven and on earth. <sup>19</sup> 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, <sup>20</sup> teaching them to observe all things that I have commanded you; and lo, I am with you always, even to the end of the age.” Amen.

- Jesus commanded the disciples (and us) to go. But what else jumps out about this command?
- Let’s look at it from a different perspective
  - **Acts 1:8** But you shall receive power when the Holy Spirit has come upon you; and you shall be witnesses to Me in Jerusalem, and in all Judea and Samaria, and to the end of the earth.”
- He first empowered them
- Then He said He would be with them always.

**Luke 10:1-9** After these things the Lord appointed seventy others also, and sent them two by two before His face into every city and place where He Himself was about to go. <sup>2</sup> Then He said to them, “The harvest truly is great, but the laborers are few; therefore pray the Lord of the harvest to send out laborers into His harvest. <sup>3</sup> Go your way; behold, I send you out as lambs among wolves. <sup>4</sup> Carry neither money bag, knapsack, nor sandals; and greet no one along the road. <sup>5</sup> But whatever house you enter, first say, ‘Peace to this house.’ <sup>6</sup> And if a son of peace is there, your peace will rest on it; if not, it will return to you. <sup>7</sup> And remain in the same house, eating and drinking such things as they give, for the laborer is worthy of his wages. Do not go from house to house. <sup>8</sup> Whatever city you enter, and they receive you, eat such things as are set before you. <sup>9</sup> And heal the sick there, and say to them, ‘The kingdom of God has come near to you.’

**Matthew 10:1** And when He had called His twelve disciples to Him, He gave them power over unclean spirits, to cast them out, and to heal all kinds of sickness and all kinds of disease.

What does the empowerment look like in these cases?

- The Holy Spirit
- The gifts of the Holy Spirit

Because this commission still applies to us today, we also have that same empowerment.

### **Here is another time Jesus said Go!**

**Matthew 21:1-3** Now when they drew near Jerusalem, and came to Bethphage, at the Mount of Olives, then Jesus sent two disciples, <sup>2</sup> saying to them, “Go into the village opposite you, and immediately you will find a donkey tied, and a colt with her. Loose them and bring them to Me. <sup>3</sup> And if anyone says anything to you, you shall say, ‘The Lord has need of them,’ and immediately he will send them.”

- Here Jesus commanded people to go and find something. There had to be trust that 1 – Jesus knew it would be there and 2 – That the owners would give their colt away to strangers.

**Matthew 26:17-19** Now on the first *day of the Feast* of the Unleavened Bread the disciples came to Jesus, saying to Him, “Where do You want us to prepare for You to eat the Passover?” <sup>18</sup> And He said, “Go into the city to a certain man, and say to him, “The Teacher says, ‘My time is at hand; I will keep the Passover at your house with My disciples.’ ” ” <sup>19</sup> So the disciples did as Jesus had directed them; and they prepared the Passover.

- What does the empowerment look like in both of these cases?
  - Provision
  - Other people joining in with them
- When the go contains dependency on other people, can we still trust Jesus for the empowerment, or do we believe others’ inconsistencies are greater than Jesus’ Word?

**Mark 5:25-28 & 32-34** Now a certain woman had a flow of blood for twelve years,<sup>26</sup> and had suffered many things from many physicians. She had spent all that she had and was no better, but rather grew worse.<sup>27</sup> When she heard about Jesus, she came behind Him in the crowd and touched His garment.<sup>28</sup> For she said, "If only I may touch His clothes, I shall be made well." ... And He looked around to see her who had done this thing....<sup>33</sup> But the woman, fearing and trembling, knowing what had happened to her, came and fell down before Him and told Him the whole truth.<sup>34</sup> And He said to her, "Daughter, your faith has made you well. Go in peace, and be healed of your affliction."

- Here Jesus gives a different type of go – Go in peace.
- She probably had very little peace in her life to this point. Now Jesus gave her what she needed to have peace.

What did the empowerment look like in this case?

- Healing!
- What did her life look like at this point? Her relationships must have been close to non-existent. How could she make a living? If she looked around at external circumstances, could she still have peace? Now she was empowered to have peace in any situation.

**John 8:3-11** Then the scribes and Pharisees brought to Him a woman caught in adultery. And when they had set her in the midst,<sup>4</sup> they said to Him, "Teacher, this woman was caught in adultery, in the very act."<sup>5</sup> Now Moses, in the law, commanded us that such should be stoned. But what do You say?"<sup>6</sup> This they said, testing Him, that they might have something of which to accuse Him. But Jesus stooped down and wrote on the ground with His finger, as though He did not hear.<sup>7</sup> So when they continued asking Him, He raised Himself up and said to them, "He who is without sin among you, let him throw a stone at her first."<sup>8</sup> And again He stooped down and wrote on the ground.<sup>9</sup> Then those who heard it, being convicted by their conscience, went out one by one, beginning with the oldest even to the last. And Jesus was left alone, and the woman standing in the midst.<sup>10</sup> When Jesus had raised Himself up and saw no one but the woman, He said to her, "Woman, where are those accusers of yours? Has no one condemned

you?” <sup>11</sup> She said, “No one, Lord.” And Jesus said to her, “Neither do I condemn you; go and sin no more.”

What is the empowerment?

- Removal of condemnation of others
- Complete forgiveness so there is no condemnation from God.
  - Jesus did not just command her to not sin, He empowered her to not sin.
  - If Jesus did not empower her to not sin, then this statement would make her guilty grateful – Grateful for being rescued, but guilty that she sinned and is powerless to keep from sinning
  - Grace given from Jesus is a force that can empower us to not sin.

**Everyone of us has been called. We have been called to live this Christian life.**

- **Ephesians 4:1-6** I, therefore, the prisoner of the Lord, beseech you to walk worthy of the calling with which you were called, <sup>2</sup>with all lowliness and gentleness, with longsuffering, bearing with one another in love, <sup>3</sup>endeavoring to keep the unity of the Spirit in the bond of peace. <sup>4</sup>*There is* one body and one Spirit, just as you were called in one hope of your calling; <sup>5</sup>one Lord, one faith, one baptism; <sup>6</sup>one God and Father of all, who *is* above all, and through all, and in you all.
- We are called – But we are also empowered!
- **God is above all** – God is over all. King of Kings, Lord of Lords. Everything is under His authority.
- **God is through all** – God is present with all of us. We cannot escape His presence.
- **God is in you all** – He indwells us. We have His mind. His strength.

**2 Timothy 1:6** Therefore I remind you to stir up the gift of God which is in you through the laying on of my hands.

When we struggle with the things we have been called to, remember that at one point God called you to do it. Which means that He is empowering you to do it.

Kingdom work is either joyful and fulfilling, or it is tiresome and a burden with great difficulties.

Are we doing Kingdom work through the empowerment? Or through our own strength?

**Galatians 5:16** I say then: Walk in the Spirit, and you shall not fulfill the lust of the flesh.

**Exodus 15:2** The LORD *is* my strength and song, And He has become my salvation; He *is* my God, and I will praise Him; My father's God, and I will exalt Him.

**Psalms 73:26** My flesh and my heart fail; *But* God *is* the strength of my heart and my portion forever.