

Obeying the Call of Our Master:
The Call to Tell the World about Jesus
Matthew 28:17-20; 1 Peter 3:14-15
December 28, 2014
Sermon Outline

Notes:

I. Introduction

- A. Children's Sermon: All Parts Needed...
- B. The Call of Our Master...
 - 1. Submitting to Jesus (The King)
 - 2. Belonging to Jesus (& His Glory)
 - 3. **Growing Up into the Perfection of Jesus:**
Unity & Diversity into the Body of Christ

Ephesians 4:13

...until we **all attain** to the **unity** of the *faith* and of the *knowledge of the Son of God*, to **mature manhood** (a complete/perfect man), to the measure of *the stature of the fullness of Christ*...

Key Idea

*God gave **each of us** to our brothers and sisters in Christ in order to build one another up into a perfect body for Christ (who is our head). ... And God sent **us** into the world to tell every nation about Him.*

II. The Call to Tell the World about Jesus

Matthew 28:17-20

¹⁷ And when they saw him *they worshiped him*, but some doubted. ¹⁸ And Jesus came and said to them, "All authority in heaven and on earth has been given to me. ¹⁹ **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, ²⁰ **teaching them to observe all that I have commanded you**. And behold, I am with you always, to the end of the age."

III. Specifically: Who is to Do What?

A. Are we all Evangelists?

Ephesians 4:11–12 (Cf. 1 Cor. 12:29–30)

¹¹ And **he gave** the apostles, the prophets, the **evangelists**, the shepherds and teachers, ¹² **to the perfecting of the saints** into the work of service, into building up the body of Christ, ¹³ until we all attain...

2 Timothy 4:2–3a, 5 (Philip the evangelist – Acts 21:8)

² **preach the word**; be ready in season and out of season; reprove, rebuke, and exhort, with complete patience and teaching. ³ For the time is coming when people will not endure **sound teaching**... ⁵ As for you, always be sober-minded, endure suffering, **do the work of an evangelist**, fulfill your ministry. (D.A. Carson)

B. Learning Our Place... (Beware of Envy)

Envy fuels a restless discontent. Selfish ambition and lazy self-loathing differ only in the way they act on this envy. One must aspire aggressively to something more than his or her ordinary place and gifting — or acquiesce in resentful passivity toward the rest of the body. A “toe” aspiring to a “higher” status, like a hand — or even the head — abandons the calling for which God prepared and gifted it. Discontent, perhaps even envious and resentful, refuses to take its assigned place where its function is crucial for the whole body. ¹

[If] a man is going to a concert hall to play the piano—we should not consider him a failure if his kidneys are unable to play anything. They support him in what he is doing, but they do not do anything musical themselves. ²

C. So... How Do Those not Called to be Evangelists Obey the Call to Tell the World about Jesus?

The task of evangelism is assigned **to the Church**. Many Christians are not gifted evangelistically. Such men should do an

¹ **Horton, Michael S.** (2014-10-07). Ordinary: Sustainable Faith in a Radical, Restless World (p. 93). Zondervan. Kindle Edition.

² Ibid. (p. 31).

honest day's work (say, as an auto mechanic), be the best mechanic in town, attend church faithfully—assuming a faithful church that is engaged in the work of evangelism—and tithe to the work of the church. What shall we say about such men? We should say that they are evangelical men, whether or not they say a word. But if they excel in their vocational work, to the glory of God, the chances are good that they will periodically have to answer the kind of question Peter mentions. ³ (bold mine)

1. Assaulting Satan's Stronghold with True Worship
2. Fruit that Bears Witness... (Gifts for Love)
3. Being Prepared to Make a Defense

IV. Assaulting Satan's Stronghold with True Worship

A. Remember the Example of Israel (Kings & Chron.)

2 Chronicles 32:8, 25

⁸ With him is an arm of flesh, but with us is the Lord our God, to help us and to fight our battles.” And the people took confidence from the words of Hezekiah king of Judah. ...

²⁵ But Hezekiah did not make return according to the benefit done to him, for his heart was proud. Therefore wrath came upon him and Judah and Jerusalem.

B. The Gates of Hell Cannot Withstand God's Assembly (Church)

Matthew 16:18

¹⁸ And I tell you, you are Peter, and on this rock I will build my **church**, and the gates of hell shall not prevail against it.

John 4:23

...the hour is coming, and is now here, when the **true worshipers** will worship the Father in spirit and truth, for the Father is seeking such people to worship him.

³ **Wilson, Douglas** (2008-11-06). A Primer on Worship and Reformation: Recovering the High Church Puritan (p. 32). Canon Press. Kindle Edition.

Why should we not forsake the gathering of ourselves together (Heb. 10:25)? ... This is really a command to not neglect going to heaven in worship. The preceding context makes this abundantly clear. We have boldness to enter the Holy of Holies in heaven (10:19). How holy must that sanctuary be? Because we have this boldness, let us draw near with true hearts (10:22).⁴

Hebrews 10:19–23

¹⁹ Therefore, brothers, since we have confidence to *enter the holy places* by the blood of Jesus,²⁰ by the new and living way that he opened for us through the curtain, that is, through his flesh,²¹ and *since we have a great priest* over the house of God,²² ***let us draw near with a true heart*** in full assurance of faith, with our hearts sprinkled clean from an evil conscience and our bodies washed with pure water.²³ Let us hold fast the confession of our hope without wavering, for he who promised is faithful.

Hebrews 11:6

...without faith it is impossible to please him, for ***whoever would draw near to God*** must believe that he exists and that he rewards those who seek him.

Key Idea

What Cape Cod most needs is a community of believers in their midst that earnestly seeks to draw near to God!

⁴ Ibid (pp. 35-36).